Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

75¢

Legislature scrambles to secure retirees' benefits. PAGE 3

Concerned citizen helped cops arrest suspected robbers. PAGE 7

BUBBLE PARTY
A group of participants frolic inside the bubble pit in Saturday's Inaugural Triple J 5K Foam and Fun Run held at the Civic Center in Susupe. The bubble pit was a big hit during the inaugural event as groups of kids and kids at heart played to their hearts' content with the soapy substance.
JON PEREZ

Volume XXVII, Issue No. 175
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 2017
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4 hurt in traffic domino mishaps

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A cascading chain of mishaps on Middle Road late Friday night resulted in four persons being injured, including a police officer.

In an event being blamed on bad weather, a car hit three pedestrians who were crossing a marked crosswalk and caused the domino effect along Chalan Pale Arnold in Gualo Rai.

A few minutes after the car hit the pedestrians, another

See 4 HURT on Page 4

CITING TECHNICAL CONCERNS
Retroactive payment bill on hold

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

House Bill 20-108, the bill that addressees the long-awaited retroactive payment of wages that were frozen at Step 12, is on hold due to technical concerns surrounding the language in the bill.

Authored by Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), HB 20-108 is currently on hold after the Office of the Gover-

See BILL on Page 4

Islanders in flooded Houston seek assistance

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI can return the favor to islanders residing in Houston who sent aid after Typhoon Soudelor devastated Saipan two years ago.

Houston Association of Marianas Islanders vice president Jennifer Aguon is calling on her brothers and sisters in the Commonwealth to lend them a hand after the city was inundated by floodwaters from Hurricane Harvey last week.

See ISLANDERS on Page 4

N. Korea believed to have conducted 6th nuke test

By FOSTER KLUG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea likely conducted its sixth nuclear test Sunday, South Korea's military said after detecting a strong earthquake near the North's main nuclear test site. Hours earlier, Pyongyang claimed its leader had inspected a hydrogen bomb meant for a new interconti-

See N. KOREA on Page 4

INSIDE

BUSINESS
Fewer Americans compared with five years ago are paying for flood insurance.
PAGE 15

NATION
Houston is among America's most intensely contaminated places. Many are now flooded.
PAGE 16

LIFE & STYLE
The former Miss Arkansas says the nation is not as divided as it may seem.
PAGE 20

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

NEW STORE HOURS
Effective September 1, 2017

Chalan Laulau
Monday to Saturday
8:00am to 5:00pm

WEC Wireless Express Center
Monday to Friday
9:00am to 6:00pm

Kagman Store
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00am to 6:00pm

IT&E

Local

FOR OUR LIBRARY CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Imperial Pacific International's Corporate Social Responsibility spent the whole week of last week to assist Joeten-Kiyu Public Library staff and volunteers in the inventory of their over 84,000 collection.

Tourism Topics

A bi-weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.

The Marianas
Saipan | Tinian | Rota

HAFA ADAI & TIROW WAY

Congratulations, all tourism partners!

Let's find out more about our visitors, based on the Marianas Visitors Authority's latest statistics.

More Visitors Than Last Year's Total

Visitors arrivals to The Marianas jumped 25 percent in July 2017 compared to July 2016. As a result of phenomenal growth, total visits to The Marianas have reached 541,152 this fiscal year, already surpassing total arrivals of 501,489 of last year with two months remaining in the fiscal year. Thanks for making tourism your business! Overall through July, visitor arrivals are also 32 percent higher so far this fiscal year compared to the same period last year.

Market Share

Where are most of our visitors coming from? "Anyoung haseyo" (hello)! More than half come from Korea (51 percent). Visitors from China comprise 35 percent, visitors from Japan comprise 8 percent, while Guam, US, Hong Kong, and other countries comprise the remaining percent.

Upcoming Events

International Festival of Cultures
Sept. 9, 16, 23, & 30, 2017
Garapan Fishing Base

KONQER Saipan
Sept. 9, 2017
Governor Inos Peace Park
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Rota Coconut Festival
Sept. 11-16, 2017

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Crab Combo Bag
Snow Crab Cluster, Jumbo Shrimp, Sliced Jumbo Squid, Green Mussels, Clams, Baby Octopus, Spicy Chamorro Sausage, Corn on the Cob, Carrots, & Potatoes. Served with Nachos with Jalapeno Cheese, and Apple Turnover served with Vanilla Ice Cream. $80/couple

Deluxe Lobster Combo Bag
Lobster Tail, Snow Crab Cluster, Jumbo Shrimp, Sliced Jumbo Squid, Green Mussels, Clams, Baby Octopus, Spicy Chamorro Sausage, Corn on the Cob, Carrots, & Potatoes. Served with Nachos with Jalapeno Cheese, and Apple Turnover served with Vanilla Ice Cream. $95/couple

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Please inquire also for group parties from 10 to 160 seats (Christening, Birthdays, Meetings or Seminars)

Legislature scrambles to secure retirees' benefits

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The trustee of the NMI Settlement Fund is pushing the CNMI government to settle the balances it owes the Fund for fiscal years 2014 and 2015, or else the Fund would "cease assisting" the government with the processing of retiree benefits.

In a letter from NMI Settlement Fund trustee Joyce Tang dated Aug. 18 to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, she stated that the Settlement Fund would "cease assisting the NMI government with the processing of the 25 percent payments to retirees effective on the next scheduled payment," which was Thursday last week.

The letter was the third in a string of letters to the governor. According to her most recent pne, Tang said that Torres did not respond to any of her letters.

Tang has letters to the governor last Nov. 3, 2016, and Dec. 12, 2016.

According to the settlement agreement, if 17 percent of total annual revenue is greater than the minimum annual amount the Commonwealth government is paying, then the government would pay the difference within 60 days.

According to Tang's Nov. 3, 2016, letter, the payment of the sum of $5.7 million, which was later corrected to $5.9 million in her Dec. 12, 2016 letter, should be paid no later than Jan. 3, 2017. This amount was to address the difference in total net annual revenue for fiscal year 2014.

For fiscal year 2015, her most recent letter stated the Commonwealth government should pay the Settlement Fund $1.2 million.

Tang asserted that without the "government's firm commitment" to promptly address the debt, the Settlement Fund would cease processing the 25 percent payments to retirees. As of press time, it was not confirmed whether the Settlement Fund pushed through with the ultimatum but the House has already passed legislation to address the concern in the form of House Bill 20-116.

HB 20-116, authored by Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), is now in the Senate.

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IT&E
*All funds raised will be donated to the American Red Cross

VOX POPULI

Why celebrate Labor Day?

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Last Friday, government agencies all over the Commonwealth jammed the grounds of the Garapan Fishing Base to celebrate Labor Day and kick off a lengthy four-day weekend.

The annual gathering unites individuals all over the island to take a day off, get together for some fun and camaraderie, and celebrate service to the community.

Throughout the year, an average person works roughly over 2,000 hours. The Labor Day holiday was created to honor every individual who works these hours. However, as the years go by, the holiday's relevance becomes more and more opaque. To find out more, *Saipan Tribune* went around to ask a few individuals why Labor Day should be celebrate.

"Labor Day is an annual thing that celebrates the labor of all the government employees on island. We have to thank them for all the hard work they put in the past."

—Eli Cabrera, Division of Parks and Recreations

"Labor Day is dedicated to working individuals who work hard throughout the year. This is the day where different agencies come together to just enjoy themselves in each other's company.

—Evelyn Sablan, CPA

"Everyday, the staff work hard, day in and day out. It's extra special to take a day off of work to gather and join with their families and just have fun."

—Marianne Teregeyo, DPL

"We recognize each other and it's also motivation to work harder. It's also a day to appreciate your job, co-workers, and especially your boss.

—Yuuki Kishimoto, Saipan Mayor's Office

"It's important to celebrate Labor Day because of all the hard work that every man and woman does every day, so they need a break."

—Kay Litulumar, Saipan Mayor's Office

"Just one day out of the year, our staff needs one day out of the year to just celebrate with their families , co-workers, and all the other agencies on island.

—Joann Aquino, Saipan Mayor's Office

"It's the way to show our appreciation to our workers. They are the backbone of the economy. It's important to recognize our workers.

—Mark Badal, Transcend

"Everyone deserves a break because many individuals are so hard working. You shouldn't overstress yourself. It's the day for working individuals to clear their minds and escape reality."

—Ciscabelle David, student

"Labor Day is important because it commemorates and recognizes the hard work of people who serve the community."

—Meriden Hocog, DFS Galleria

"We celebrate Labor Day because individuals need to take time off from their busy schedules and just relax and celebrate themselves. They deserve a break.

—Riza Hocog, student

BILL

From Page 1

nor sought the opinion of Attorney General Edward Manibusan on the bill.

According to a statement from the administration, HB 20-108, which it referred to as "an important piece of legislation," is a significant step toward supporting the "hard working public servants" of the Commonwealth government.

"… We look forward to working with the Legislature and the Attorney General's Office on addressing these concerns effectively so that these employees receive what they deserve."

According to interim press secretary Kevin Bautista, a request for a recall of the bill would follow should there be a need.

"The administration remains committed to making sure the lump-sum payments to our remaining frozen civil service employees are met," reads part of the administration statement.

HB 20-108, passing both upper and lower chambers in the form of House Draft 1, seeks to allocate $1.4 million as lump-sum payment for the 330 active or inactive government employees who had their wages frozen at Step 12.

The Senate discussion had focused on whether to pass the bill or not, as the legislation did not specify a source of funding. Sen. Paul Mangloña (Ind-Rota) pointed out the problem during discussions in mid-August 2017.

Despite the opposition, the Senate unanimously passed the bill; many senators leveraged their vote on future bills in exchange for discussions on subsequent House appropriation bills.

4 HURT

From Page 1

vehicle slid and rear-ended a parked responding police car, and then another vehicle hit a police officer who was directing traffic at the accident scene.

The three pedestrians were brought by ambulance to the Commonwealth Health Center for treatment. Police officer Bradford Peter, who was hit by a car, was also taken to CHC emergency room for minor injuries to the leg.

The driver of a car that hit the pedestrians was issued a traffic citation for failing to exercise due care to pedestrians and for failing to yield the right of way to pedestrians on a marked crosswalk.

Investigators processed the scene and impounded the car that hit the pedestrians.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Lt. Jason Tarkong said police officers responded on Friday at 11:05pm to the auto-triple pedestrian incident at the northbound inner lane of Chalan Pale Arnold in front of Springs Plaza or OPM office building at the pedestrian crosswalk.

Highway patrol investigators learned that three pedestrians were crossing the highway on the crosswalk when a vehicle travelling north on the inner lane struck all three of them.

The driver did not see the crossing pedestrians due to the inclement weather.

Several marked police cars arrived at the scene to assist. Police cars secured the scene, with emergency blue lights activated to protect the officers, medical personnel, and the injured pedestrians.

A car traveling north on the inner lane slid and struck a police car parked directly near the crash scene. No one was injured but both vehicles sustained minor damage, Tarkong said.

About three minutes later, another vehicle travelling south on the inner lane struck Peter, who was directing traffic at the scene.

Tarkong said investigators learned that the driver was distracted by the accident scene and did not see the officer.

N. KOREA

From Page 1

nental ballistic missile.

If the quake was indeed the result of a nuclear test, its magnitude indicates it may have been North Korea's most powerful detonation yet. That could mean a significant step forward in the North's quest for a viable nuclear missile capable of striking anywhere in the United States.

South Korea's weather agency and the Joint Chiefs of Staff said an artificial 5.7 magnitude quake occurred at 12:29 p.m. local time, in Kilju, northern Hamgyong province, the site where North Korea has conducted nuclear tests in the past. Seoul officials revised their earlier estimate of 5.6 magnitude quake. The U.S. Geological Survey called the first quake an explosion with a magnitude 6.3.

The U.S. State Department had no immediate reaction. South Korea's presidential office said it will hold a National Security Council meeting chaired by President Moon Jae-in. South Korea's military said it has strengthened its monitoring and readiness while mulling a variety of possible responses that could be executed in collaboration with the U.S.

Japan confirmed that North Korea conducted a nuclear test, Foreign Minister Taro Kono said. "It is absolutely unacceptable if North Korea did force another nuclear test, and we must protest strongly," Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said.

China's earthquake administration detected a second tremor of magnitude 4.6 in North Korea minutes after the first. It described the event as a cave-in. South Korea's weather agency, however, said no second quake occurred.

North Korea conducted two nuclear tests last year, the last nearly a year ago, on the Sept. 9 anniversary of the nation's founding. It has since maintained a torrid pace in weapons tests, including its first two intercontinental ballistic missiles test in July. Last month, North Korea fired a potentially nuclear-capable midrange missile over northern Japan.

Earlier Sunday, photos released by the North Korean government showed Kim talking with his lieutenants as he observed a silver, peanut-shaped device that was apparently the purported thermonuclear weapon destined for an ICBM. What appeared to be the nose cone of a missile could also be seen near the alleged bomb in one picture, which could not be independently verified and was taken without outside journalists present. Another photo showed a diagram on the wall behind Kim of a bomb mounted inside a cone.

State media said Kim visited the Nuclear Weapons Institute and inspected a "homemade" H-bomb with "super explosive power" that "is adjustable from tens (of) kiloton to hundreds (of) kiloton."

North Korea's nuclear and missile program has made huge strides since Kim rose to power following his father's death in late 2011. The North followed its two tests of Hwasong-14 ICBMs by threatening in August to launch a salvo of its Hwasong-12 intermediate range missiles toward the U.S. Pacific island territory of Guam.

ISLANDERS

From Page 1

Many Pacific islanders now reside in Houston and Harvey has left the city in ruins, resulting in a shortage of supplies.

Aguon, on behalf of HAMI, is reaching out to CNMI residents who may be wondering how to give help.

"I am a Pacific islander. I saw our people and other islanders being forced out of their homes due to flooding," said Aguon in an online interview.

She said Houston residents are in dire need of supplies. Deliveries to the city are currently on hold because of the massive flooding that has stranded many residents in the city.

"The stores have limited supplies as deliveries have ceased due to flooding and inaccessibility. I have personally seen lines of people waiting at the grocery just to try and get what they can but everything is in limited supply," said Aguon.

HAMI is currently accepting cash donations and donations of non-perishable items.

"People have been out of jobs for a week now and possibly more weeks to come or until businesses are up and running. Those people will need money for gas and perishable items. If money can be sent, we would also appreciate it," said Aguon.

Rep. Edwin Propst (Ind-Saipan), who is also a part of HAMI on the island, said the organization was extremely helpful when Typhoon Soudelor devastated Saipan in August 2015.

"HAMI was instrumental in providing us with a huge amount of goods which was air freighted on United [Airlines], from Houston to Saipan. This happened shortly after Soudelor," Propst told *Saipan Tribune.*

Propst said that HAMI is accepting monetary donations via PayPal. He encourages the community to help fellow islanders in Houston "as they have helped us in our time of devastation."

"Truly, it is in giving that we receive, and the more we give, the more we make our world a better place," said Propst.

There is currently no deadline for the donations. It is still unsure how long the recovery process will take but any type of help would be greatly appreciated by the people who were devastated by Hurricane Harvey, Aguon said.

"The recovery process is ongoing. We don't know how long it will take to rebuild the city of Houston, but whatever we can do to help, whatever assistance you can give is appreciated and sorely needed," said Aguon.

For those willing to help the families in Houston, donations can be sent to Joaquina DLG Chong at 8106 White Arbor Court Humble, TX 77338. All donations will be distributed to the island families.

For monetary donations, feel free to email Jennifer White Aguon at j.whiteaguon@gmail.com. The email can also be used to send money through PayPal.

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2017 HONDA RIDGELINE retail price $37,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.4% APR for 72 monthly payments of $495.19 or $228.55 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $35,653.68.
2017 NISSAN FRONTIER retail price $26,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.4% APR for 72 monthly payments of $351.82 or $162.33 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $25,323.84.
2017 NISSAN TITAN SV 4WD - 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.4% APR for 72 monthly payments of $742.81 or $342.84 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $53,482.32.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

In celebration of Commonwealth Preparedness Month,
CNMI Homeland Security & Emergency Management,
would like to invite the community to attend the upcoming:

CNMI Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
OPEN HOUSE

WHEN: September 6-8, 2017

TIMES: Walkthroughs/Presentations:
10 AM
2 PM

WHERE: CNMI EOC, Capitol Hill, Saipan
(Behind CNMI Dept. of Finance)

WHO IS INVITED: The CNMI Community to include Partners, Stakeholders, Private Citizens, Community Leaders

WHY: The EOC Open House provides an opportunity for all concerned citizens to partake in a tour of the CNMI Emergency Operations Center. In addition, a preparedness brief will be conducted by staff to discuss Preparedness Measures and upcoming weather outlook for the rest of the 2017.

HOW: Contact your Emergency Operations Center-State Warning Point at (670) 237-8000 or (670) 664-8000 to confirm seating. Seats are FREE and limited.

FHB creates donation drive for Harvey relief

HONOLULU, Hawaii— First Hawaiian Bank announced the creation of the Aloha Relief for Harvey Fund to assist the American National Red Cross in their efforts to help the thousands of residents who were devastated by Hurricane Harvey on Aug.25, 2017. FHB has donated the first $25,000 to the Fund and its branches will serve as community donation collection points. All contributions to the Fund will be donated to the Red Cross to assist the Hurricane Harvey relief efforts, according to an announcement made Friday by Bob Harrison, First Hawaiian Bank chairman and chief executive officer.

Those wishing to contribute to the Aloha Relief for Harvey Fund may do so at any FHB branch in Hawaii, Guam, and Saipan through Sept. 30, 2017.

"We are all very deeply concerned for the survivors of this storm. With this Aloha Relief for Harvey Fund, we want to help the thousands who have been impacted by the catastrophic flooding in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey," said Harrison. "We encourage everyone to join us in making a contribution of any size to help the Red Cross do what it does best in helping the affected regions recover as quickly as possible."

"Our hearts go out to our neighbors in Texas and Louisiana who are struggling to survive and recover from the most devastating hurricane to hit the United States in a decade," said Coralie Matayoshi, chief executive officer, American Red Cross Pacific. "Over a dozen Hawaii Red Cross volunteers have already deployed to share our *aloha*. We are so grateful for the generous support of companies like First Hawaiian Bank, which helps makes our humanitarian work possible here at home, across the nation, and around the world."

FHB (www.FHB.com) was founded in 1858 as Bishop & Co. and is Hawaii's leading bank, offering a comprehensive suite of banking services to consumer and commercial customers, including deposit products, lending, wealth management, insurance, private banking and trust services. The bank operates 57 branches in Hawaii, three on Guam and two on Saipan. FHB Inc., the parent company of FHB, is the largest publicly traded company based in Hawaii. ***(FHB)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-027

ROOF REPLACEMENT AT DRUM STORAGE AREA POWER PLANT NO. 1 SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the replacement of roofing material at the Drum Storage Berm, Power Plant 1, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general of the removal of corroded roofing and its replacement with new material. Electrical work for installation of lighting and power outlets at the berm is also requested for this task.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **90 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **September 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-027 Roof Replacement Drum Storage Area Power Plant No. 1 Saipan",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 29, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to conduct business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 14, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org and Max Simian, CUC Technical Manager for Oil – via email max.simian@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-037

CONSULTANCY SERVICES - REPLACEMENT OF 1 ENGINE SYSTEM - SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities for the Consultancy Services including procurement support, project management, engineering and design services of the Replacement of 1 Engine System (No. 8 –10 to13 MW, capacity) at CUC Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Consultant shall have a minimum of ten (10) years of verifiable experience and a track record of designing, modification and installation of diesel fuel or dual fuel power plants, among other attributes noted in the RFP documents.

The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission CPUC.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-service will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at Power Plant Administration Office in Lower Base, Saipan on **September 19, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to Power Plant No. 1 facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal and hence the attendance of the pre-proposal meeting and site visit is mandatory.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-RFP-17-037– Consultancy Services - Replacement of 1 Engine System"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **September 29, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety.

Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 20, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. , CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to William Gilmore, CUC Deputy Executive Director via email william.gilmore@cugov.org and Venugopal Prabhakara, Utility Coordinator for Power via email venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, Jr.
Purchasing Administrator

Concerned citizen helped cops arrest suspected robbers

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A concerned citizen who witnessed a robbery in western Garapan last Thursday midnight followed the suspects' car, resulting in the arrest of two male ex-convicts.

Last Friday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a $20,000 cash bail each on ex-convicts Angel Ruben Chipuelong and Lucky Michael Chipuelong, who allegedly conspired to rob a tourist who was walking on Palm Street.

Assistant public defender Shoshanah Epstein is counsel for Angel Chipuelong. A private counsel will be appointed for Lucky Chipuelong.

The police report did not mention if the defendants are siblings or cousins.

Preliminary hearing will be on Sept. 7 at 9am.

Chief Prosecutor Michele Harris appeared for the government at the bail hearing.

The Chipuelongs were arrested last Thursday at 1:09am on charges of robbery and conspiracy to commit robbery.

Police detected a strong odor of alcohol on the two when they were arrested.

Lucky Chipuelong allegedly confessed to police that they conspired to rob the woman and that it was Angel Chipuelong who grabbed her purse.

A.R. Chipuelong

The purse had two $10 bills, a Republic of Korea passport, sunglasses, a wallet, two photo identification cards, three credit cards, a Lotte cigarette, a moisturizing cream, cosmetics, and two universal travel adaptors.

The Department of Public Safety Central received a call on Thursday at 12am about a robbery behind the Garapan fire station.

Two police officers at a nearby substation (koban) responded. A witness flagged down the police's car and informed the officer that one suspect ran into an abandoned building west of the fire station.

While the officers were searching for the suspect, medics were summoned near the Noodle House in Garapan, where the victim was being interviewed by another police officer.

The officers checked the abandoned building, but found no one.

The victim had scratches and bruises on the right wrist, left thumb, and left leg. She refused to be taken to the hospital.

L. M. Chipuelong

The victim told police that she and a female friend were walking west on Palm Street near Noodle House when a man they had seen walking toward them grabbed the victim's purse. In the struggle for the purse, the suspect pushed the victim down to the ground and managed to run away

While police were interviewing the victim and her friend, DPS Central received a call from a witness who reported that he was following the suspect's vehicle, a white Toyota Corolla with license plate ADA-255 by 99 Cents store in Garapan. A police officer followed the car and pulled it over along Chalan Pale Arnold near the NMI Museum in China Town.

The driver of the car was identified as Angel Chipuelong, while the passenger was Lucky Chipuelong.

The officers saw a white purse in the car's rear passenger floor. Police then brought the victim to the scene, where she identified the purse and its contents as hers.

The two suspects were then arrested.

The witness told the police that he saw the snatching incident and followed the suspects' vehicle.

Police said Lucky Chipuelong is currently under probation, while Angel Chipuelong is a convicted robber.

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- President, Cataract Teaching Foundation
- Instructor, American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery

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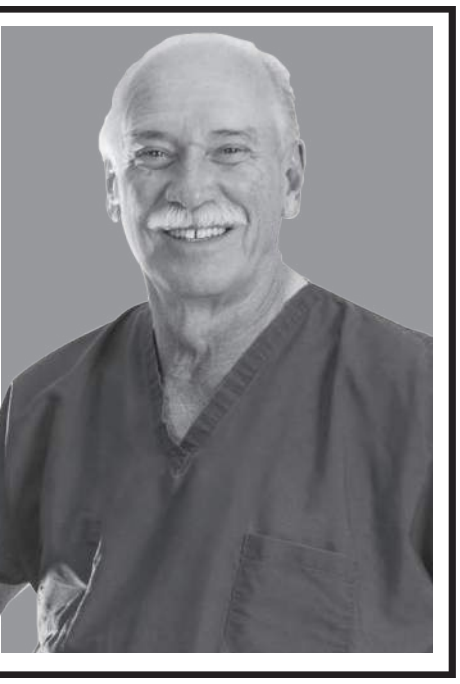

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Surviving suicide loss at Sept. grief support group

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, Sept. 7, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai.

In honor of Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month, we will have a special presentation by a guest speaker on the topic of surviving suicide loss. Anyone who has lost a loved one to suicide is encouraged to attend.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. Today more than 600 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, and Saipan offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died.

For more information, e-mail tcfSaipan@gmail.com or call Donna Krum (783-1900). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionatefriends.org. ***(TCF)***

COURTESY CALL

Joe Ayuyu, McDonald's Saipan & Guam president, right, and Joe E. Ayuyu Jr., general manager of McDonald's Saipan, center, call on Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) at his office on Capitol Hill during the Ayuyus' trip to Washington, D.C. last July 19 to attend the McDonald's national government relations workshop.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
BOARD OF PAROLE
P.O. BOX 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel: Nos.: (670) 664-3300 – 3302 • FAX: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

TO ALL MEDIA SERVICES PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

MESSAGE: The Honorable Ralph Dlg. Torres, Governor and the Honorable Victor B. Hocog, Lt. Governor, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992", hereby give Official Notice that a **Parole Hearing** is scheduled for **September 11, 2017 (Monday), beginning at 10:00 a.m., and will continue, if need be, on September 12, 2017 (Tuesday), beginning at 10:00 a.m.,** at the Honorable Vicente T. Seman Building, Department of Corrections Training Room, located at Susupe, Saipan MP 96950. The Agenda is as follows:

I. **Preliminary Matters**
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Presence of Quorum

II. **Consent Items**
1. Adoption of Agenda

III. Parole Hearing		BOP No.:	Criminal Case No.:
1.	Johnny John Basinte	17-010	16-0002 B / 15-0067D
2.	Bradley DLR. Palacios	17-011	15-0110B
3.	Martin I. Kapileo	17-012	Traffic Case No. 12-1675
4.	Edward Blas	17-013	08-0220A
5.	Billy Jack V. Quitugua	17-014	12-0174A
6.	Manuel K. Pangelinan	17-015	04-0213D / 88-226F
7.	John I. Carreon	17-016	12-0030T

IV. **Revocation Hearing**
1. Ray Anthony L. Babauta 13-007 09-0231

VI. **Adjournment**

If deemed necessary, members of the Board of Parole may elect to vote to meet in Executive Session to discuss any of the items listed above.

If you have any question or need additional information, please contact the Board of Parole Office at telephone numbers 664-3300 or 664-3302.

/s/
Ramon B. Camacho
BOP Chairman
August 31, 2017
Date

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
BOARD OF PAROLE
P.O. BOX 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel: Nos.: (670) 664-3300 – 3302 • FAX: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

TO ALL MEDIA SERVICES PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

MESSAGE: The Honorable Ralph Dlg. Torres, Governor and the Honorable Victor B. Hocog, Lt. Governor, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992", hereby give Official Notice that an **Executive Board Meeting** is scheduled for **September 13, 2017, Wednesday**, at **10:00 a.m.**, at the **Honorable Vicente T. Seman Building, Department of Corrections Facility Training Room, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950**. The following items are included in the agenda:

Board of Parole Executive Meeting Agenda

I. **Preliminary Matters**
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Presence of Quorum

II. **Consent Items**
1. Adoption of Agenda
2. Adoption of Executive Meeting Minutes – August 10, 2017

III. **New Business**
1. Designation of Chief Parole Officer

VI. **Miscellaneous**
1. Schedule of Next Parole Hearing
2. Schedule of Next Executive Meeting

V. **Adjournment**

For any additional information about the meeting, please call the Parole Office at telephone numbers 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/
Ramon B. Camacho
Chairman, Board of Parole
August 31, 2017
Date

Eating less sodium can help to reduce blood pressure. Current recommendation for sodium for those with high blood pressure (hypertension) is 1500mg per day. If you had two slices of Spam some finadeni or soy sauce over your rice you would have exceeded your daily sodium limit. And that's only from breakfast!!

Most common sources of sodium in the CNMI diet are:

Food	Serving Size	Sodium
Soy sauce	1 Tablespoon	879 mg
Table salt	1 Teaspoon	2300 mg
Hot dog	1 frank	460 mg
Spam, original	3 oz (1/4 can)	1185 mg
Spam, low sodium	3 oz (1/4 can)	870 mg
Corned beef, Ox & Palm	3 oz (1/4 can)	450 mg
Portuguese sausage, Hoffy Brand	3 oz (size of deck) of cards	750 mg

Please, share this message.

The Racial and Ethic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) program focuses on increasing the intake of fruits and vegetables and on reducing the intake of sodium through the BIBA Healthy Restaurant Project. When dining out, look for BIBA menu items at participating restaurants: Shirley's Coffee Shop, Caravan of Food, and Everest Kitchen.

Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 6824/23/22 • Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu • Website: www.marianas.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NMC IFB 17-007
MAINTENANCE POWER SERVICES

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement of Maintenance Manpower Services for the As Terlaje Campus, Saipan.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday, Aug 28th, 2017 between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Bid Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m., September 29, 2017, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is available to local businesses for this procurement.

For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the IFB via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

Approved by:

/s/Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement & Property Management Office

Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 6824/23/22 • Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NMC IFB 17-012
BUILDING REPAIR AND RENOVATION PROJECT

Northern Marianas College (NMC), is soliciting competitive sealed bids for Roof Renovation for building D2, at As Terlaje Campus, Saipan.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday, August 28, 2017, between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

A mandatory pre-bid conference and site inspection for interested persons, firms and corporation will be held on Friday, September 08, 2017 at 10:00am at NMC Procurement & Property Management Office, Conference Room on the 2nd floor, Bldg L.

Bid Packages are due no later than 11:00 a.m., September 15, 2017 at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is not available to local businesses for this procurement.

For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the IFB via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

Approved by:
/s/Anita Camacho
Procurement & Property Management Office

Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 237-6824 ext. 23/22 Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS SERVICES
NMC RFP 17-005

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed proposal from qualified firms as an "Independent Auditor" to perform a financial and compliance audit for the College.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday, August 14, 2017, between the hours of 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Proposal Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m., September 15, 2017, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950.

For Proposers located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the RFP via fax (670) 235-7601 or email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

Discussion may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers.

NMC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reasons and/or to waive any defects in any proposals if, in its sole discretion, to do so will be in the best interest of the College. All proposals shall become the property of NMC.

/s/ Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement Manager

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Military training at Agat Bay, W-517, Orote Point

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training in the vicinity of Agat Bay within the following coordinates: 13° 23”N/144° 35”E during the following dates and times:

- Sept. 5, from 4pm to 8pm
- Sept. 6, from 3pm to 8pm
- Sept. 7, from 1pm to 6pm

The military will also conduct training at Warning Area 517 (W-517) during the following dates and times:

- Sept. 5, from 6pm to 10pm
- Sept. 6, from 10:30am to 10pm
- Sept. 8, from 9am to 3pm

Training will also take place at Orote Point on Sept. 6 from noon to 4pm. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the training.

It is recommended the public, fishermen and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40’ 00”N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank are open for public use. ***(PR)***

Veterans benefits outreach

The U.S. Department of Veterans Benefits Administration (non-health) will be conducting a veterans benefits outreach on Sept. 8, 2017, from 9am to 3pm, at the Saipan VA Outreach Clinic, MH II Bldg., Suite 206, Marina Heights Business Park in Garapan. This will be a one-on-one outreach. Kalani Echang, legal administrative specialist, will be available to answer questions and take your claims.

For an appointment call Ruth Coleman at 322-0035.

All veterans, family members, and veteran widowers are encouraged to avail to their services. ***(PR)***

Public school closed today

All CNMI public schools will be closed today, Sept. 4, in observance of the Labor Day holiday. All schools, including Early Head Start, Head Start, elementary, middle and high schools on Saipan, Tinian and Rota will be closed.

Classes and services will resume on Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017, for all schools except for the Early Head Start and Head Start Programs, which have school-level Professional Development Day on Sept. 5, 2017. For Early Head Start and Head Start Programs, classes will resume on Sept. 6.

Contact the school or the Office of the Commissioner at (670) 237-3061 for any questions. ***(PR)***

Chamber meeting on Wednesday

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have a general membership meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 6, at the Seaside Hall of Kanoa Resort. The luncheon begins at 11:30am and the meeting starts promptly at noon.

Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman will talk about the Prevailing Wage Survey and update on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan. Japan Consul Kinji Shinoda will share information about the Japan Exchange and Teaching program.

We will also launch a new project of the Saipan Young Professionals Committee, which will engage the entire community in enhancing the lives of the youth. ***(SCC)***

CNMI Scholarship deadline for NMC’s PLA Program extended

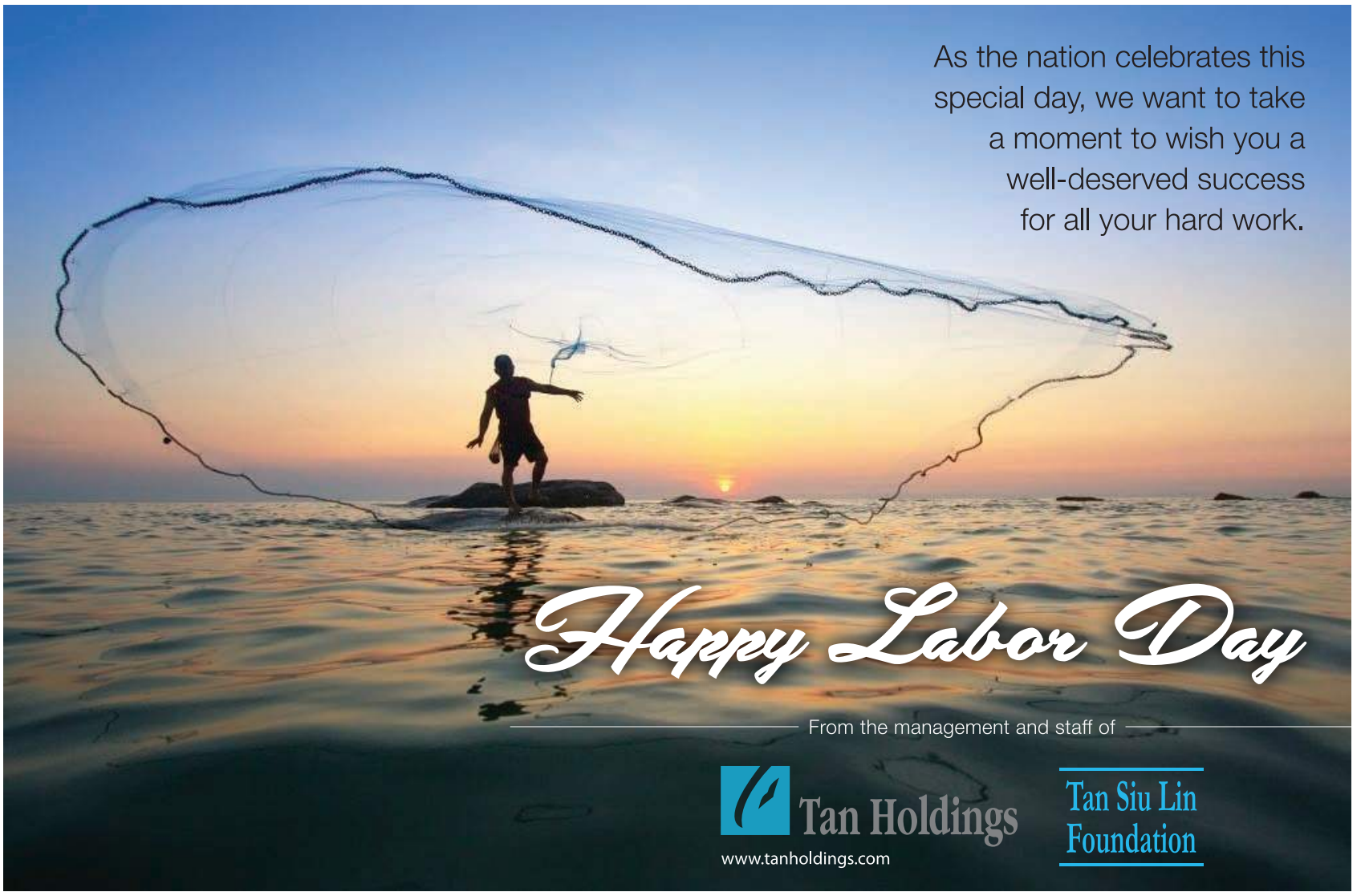
The CNMI Scholarship Office has extended the deadline to submit scholarship applications for the Prior Learning Assessment program to Sept. 8, 2017. Students who would like to apply for financial aid for NMC’s PLA program can submit a scholarship application to the CNMI Scholarship Office in Capitol Hill no later than Sept. 8, 2017. For more information, contact Raymond Muna by calling 237-6746 or emailing raymond.muna@marianas.edu. Additional information is also available at marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

Naval Base Guam to test Giant Voice system

SANTA RITA, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam will conduct routine testing of the vital communication and advance warning system, “Giant Voice,” on Sept. 5 starting at 3pm. Residents in surrounding areas of the GV speakers should only hear short verbal tests of the system, including warning tones. This is a monthly test that typically falls on the first Monday of each month. ***(PR)***

JKPL closed until Tuesday

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will resume normal hours on Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2017. It will be closed for Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 4, 2017, and Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017. ***(PR)***


As the nation celebrates this special day, we want to take a moment to wish you a well-deserved success for all your hard work.
Happy Labor Day
From the management and staff of
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Tan Siu Lin Foundation

A big salute to all the working men and women of the CNMI.
HAPPY LABOR DAY
from the staff and management of
Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVII, Issue No. 175

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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EDITORIAL

Lessons from superstorm Sandy can help victims in Houston

Floodwaters finally are receding in and near Houston, and some semblance of normalcy is returning to some parts of Texas battered by Hurricane Harvey—even as the monster storm moves on to Louisiana and other states.

Now Texas is learning what New Yorkers discovered nearly five years ago after superstorm Sandy ripped through the region: The storm is gone, but there is no end to the heartache and headaches.

The death toll in Texas has topped 30, and with some people still missing that count is expected to rise. Tens of thousands of structures have been damaged or destroyed, many of them uninsured, and there seems to be no end to the homeless population. Residents will be plagued by mold and mildew, and by mosquitoes carrying diseases.

Then there is the water that remains—a fetid stew laced with waste, debris and toxic chemicals, spawning fears of infectious diseases like cholera. The city's gigantic petroleum complex released more than 2 million pounds of hazardous substances into the air. Private wells used by hundreds of thousands of Texans also are at risk for contamination.

The financial toll at this moment is incalculable. But we know what awaits—the long, arduous and often frustrating task of recovery. We hope everyone involved in helping Texans get back on their feet learns from what happened after Sandy.

Congress must make sure disaster aid is readily available, as it was to the New York region. The Federal Emergency Management Agency must operate more effectively than it did after Sandy, when it took too long to get recovery money to too many people, and when fraudulently altered engineering reports led to lower payments or denials of claims.

No one should think this process will go quickly, least of all President Donald Trump, who is scheduled to return to Texas tomorrow and who seems eager to claim success on behalf of his administration. That evaluation won't be made for months, or years.

In New York and New Jersey, there's still rebuilding and fortifying in some places, some victims still are not back in their homes, and some remediation has yet to begin. We've learned that we have not always built wisely, and that we increased our vulnerability. Houston is beginning to realize that, too.

Those on the East Coast understand the sense of susceptibility now felt by Texans. It's up to each of us here to offer them some measure of support, like that which was extended to us in our darkest hours. It will be a long road back for Texas. Let's do what we can to shorten the journey.

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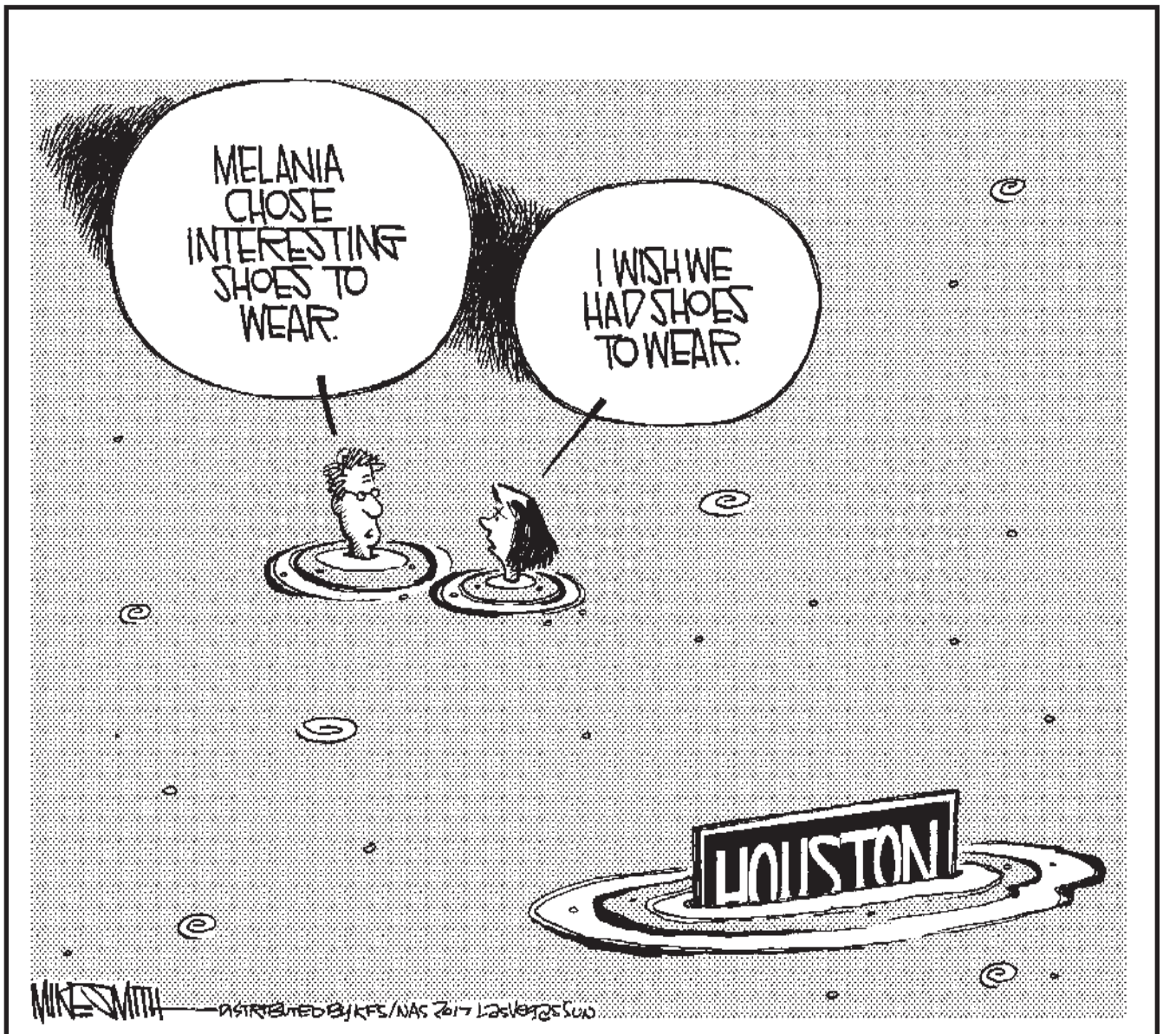


Meet hate speech with good speech

By MARY SANCHEZ
The Kansas City Star

Mary Sanchez is an opinion-page columnist for The Kansas City Star. *Readers may write to her at: Kansas City Star, 1729 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, Mo. 64108-1413, or via email at msanchez@kcstar.com.*

Is it possible to cleanse the internet of white supremacism, neo-Nazism and other expressions of violent, hate-based ideologies? Is it a good idea even to try?

These are some of the questions that linger after the violent confrontation between members of the racist alt-right and counter-protestors at the so-called Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Va., last month.

Most of us are familiar with the internet comments-thread racist and the Twitter fascist. This type of individual spreads his vile, vindictive thoughts anonymously, derails civil conversation with lies and hate speech, and nobody is any the wiser about who he is in real life. Journalists, among others, are well acquainted with the anonymous sender of death threats, often embellished with anti-Semitism, racism and/or violent misogyny.

We also have long known that vast tracts of cyberspace are claimed by kooks and racists of every stripe to commune with each other and share conspiracy stories. And we've made our uneasy peace with that. Freedom of speech, after all.

But at Charlottesville the hoods came off.

We learned that these people are organized and emboldened, and they have plans.

Charlottesville will long be remembered as a turning point in America's confrontation with organized, militant hate groups, ones that many of us once believed were too marginal to represent a threat. Let's not screw it up.

One thing that has happened since Charlottesville is that the leading websites for self-described racists and anti-Semites have been banished by web hosting companies.

The first to go was The Daily Stormer, a favorite of white supremacists. GoDaddy and Google canceled its domain registration after the site published a derogatory story about the death of Heather Heyer, the woman who died protesting against the racists at Charlottesville. She was struck by a car driven by an alt-right adherent.

Daily Stormer bounced around to some other hosts, including one in Albania, before going dark. It was followed by Stormfront, which has long billed itself as "the country's oldest white supremacist website," boasting 50,000 to 60,000 visitors daily.

On the surface, these actions feel like a victory for tolerance and public peace. And given that the websites can be used to incite violence or organize the neo-Nazis for action, that's a fair argument.

That's the perspective of Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, the stellar organization that pressured Stormfront's domain host by letter, specifically citing its role in helping to organize the Unite the Right rally.

The problem is that quashing their websites is unlikely to change the beliefs or motivation of fervent racists. And it may drive these movements further underground. And that could be even more dangerous. Police, journalists and average citizens deserve a look at who these people are and what they are saying.

It's counterintuitive on first glance. But there is a flipside to forcing hate groups underground. Hate speech is protected, no matter how heinous. What isn't allowed is inciting violence. Anonymity makes bigoted people vile. Stealth makes vile people dangerous. We need potentially dangerous people to be visible to law enforcement.

Remember, Charlottesville ignited a strong reply. For the first time in many people's lives, they saw the neo-Nazis stomping through normally quiet streets, spewing anti-Semitic chants and boldly proclaiming their hatred of anyone who doesn't fit their racial ideal.

Good people were galled. In city after city, they spoke out, organizing their own rallies against the hate.

It's a perfect moment in America. We have chosen the constitutionally sound response of meeting hate speech with good speech. It's the response we must hold to, no matter how discomforting it is to watch the forces of hate to hold forth.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

IPI's world-class corporate social responsibility program

Last of a two-part column

Editor's Note: The following is being published in two parts due to its length.

Today, Imperial Pacific International continues its commitment by supporting C.A.R.E., a group dedicated to the CNMI's long-term recovery. Even after most felt that the CNMI had already recovered, CSR remained committed to assisting C.A.R.E. with cleaning up debris at various homes every Saturday.

CSR's volunteer disaster work led to the creation of the Village Pride Project, an innovative initiative that encourages community service and volunteerism. CSR reached over 21 villages on the islands of Saipan, Rota, and Tinian and contributed over 21,000 man-hours through our Village Pride Project.

We continually aim at being stewards of the environment through our partnerships with environmental agencies. CSR participates in the CNMI government's Adopt-A-Beach program, honoring our commitment to beach cleanups throughout the year. We have conducted over 20 beach cleanups over the past two years at 12 different beaches, contributing over 900 man-hours.

Culture and Education

IPI's corporate social responsibility efforts have played a major role in promoting local culture and heritage. Embracing cultural preservation and promoting indigenous cultures are vital to CSR. We continue to support activities and programs promoting local cultural dance groups, traditional navigational initiatives and various other culture-focused movements.

Since 2015, CSR has been involved in over 40 different cultural events, has made donations for the restoration of master traditional navigator Mau Pialug's canoe and provided support for the CNMI delegation to the Festival of the Pacific Arts in Guam.

CSR believes that supporting our CNMI's public school system is direct support to the children of the CNMI. In addition to monetary donations of about $30,000 to students that have excelled and have represented our islands, CSR initiated its School Pride Project, which focuses on improvements to the environment, this one specific to public schools. It is an outreach and engagement initiative that assists all the CNMI's public schools in cleaning up, repairing and restoring their facilities. As a result CSR has directly benefitted over 10,000 students.

Tourism and destination enhancement

IPI's investment in its CSR work has assisted in the enhancement and promotion of the islands as a premier travel destination, with tourism being the CNMI's main economic mainstay. It has supported the government's primary tourism arm—the Marianas Visitor's Authority—in its beautification initiatives and programs. CSR has enhanced over 15 different tourist and downtown sites, mainly in the northern part of Saipan, contributing over 4,000 man-hours to beautification efforts in areas frequented by visitors.

Health and social service

IPI's commitment to the wellbeing of its community remains strong. CSR has partnered with health agencies in over 60 different events, donated wheelchairs to the pediatrics section of our hospital and enhanced the hospital's facilities as well. IPI contributed over $50,000 in medical-referral assistance to support its employees and relatives seeking extended medical services.

IPI recognizes the importance of sports in our community and continues to support sports-related organizations on Saipan, Rota and Tinian. To date, IPI has donated over $60,000 for team sponsorships.

Our Future

Through these various outreach efforts, Imperial Pacific's CSR program has enhanced and reinforced the culture of service and volunteerism. IPI's CSR will continue to partner with different groups on our islands, with young people and with our *man amko*. Imperial Pacific's CSR will continue to contribute financially to these groups in order to strengthen their programs. Imperial Pacific will continue its commitment and leadership in the CNMI community and remain dedicated to creating a better CNMI for the world to see.

By GERI DELACRUZ
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Geri Dela Cruz is executive director of Imperial Pacific International Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The promise of false pretenses

Our leader's continued pledge on building local workforce capacity while covertly perpetuating dependency on foreign workers means they are guilty of a promise of false pretenses. This conversation has polluted the "creative imaginations" of CNMI leaders since 1966 when a class of foreign workers was first established by the introduction and enactment of the Nonresident Workers Act. The government has been dealing with this issue for the past 51 years and still hasn't figured out the right formula for mitigating the serious effects of manpower shortages.

The most disappointing part of this discussion is that our leaders are still regurgitating the same political rhetoric, knowing that the end result will still be the same. All the published commentaries made by and from our leaders regarding this subject are purely political camouflage in a chameleon-like disguise, no substance whatsoever. Fifty-one years of trying to figure this lingering issue is abysmally reflective of the lack of seriousness, conflicting motivation, and total dependence on federal intervention.

At the time when the CNMI government was congressionally given administrative control of its immigration, we demonstrated our inability to effectively manage enforcement of our immigration policies. During the more than 25 years of local discretionary authority over foreign workers and unimpeded opportunities to develop local workforce capacity, nothing came about of this power, only wasted opportunity. Once again, our leaders failed to develop and legislatively adopt measurable comprehensive local workforce development plan.

Even after repeated warnings from the federal government in the latter part of the '80s and '90s regarding serious immigration infractions and abuses, CNMI leaders still failed to heed the call for corrective actions. Similar warnings to control the number of foreign workers entering the CNMI were repeatedly conveyed to our leaders throughout the years. Finally, the resolve of the federal government reached its limit when the population of foreigners ridiculously outnumbered local residents, when potential social unrest appeared to be heightening, and our leader's indifference to taking corrective measures.

What was puzzling, though, and is worth noting was that members of the 11th Legislature openly acknowledged the problem and cited their concerns in its findings in House Bill 11-163, HD2, SD1, which became PL 11-6. However, to this very day, no implementing efforts or follow-up attempts came about, only repetitive political commentaries about building local workforce capacity continued to be recycled as though a panacea that could somehow make the situation better. Because the issue of building local workforce was a concern very dear to our local population, politicians in collusion with the elite business community exploited our people's emotions through implied concern and complicity.

Leery of the CNMI leaders' lack of consistent workforce policy and the continued reliance on foreign workers, the U.S. Congress asserted its plenary power on immigration with the enactment of US Public Law 110-229, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008. As a result of this statute, the authority of the CNMI government to administer and enforce its immigration policies effectively ended.

Still in the enactment of the CNRA, Congress' concern for the development of local workforce capacity was poignantly expressed under the technical assistance provision of the statute, where funding, through CW application fees, was dedicated to support Congress' explicit desire and CNMI workforce desperately needs.

So, what was the distinctive impact of P.L. 119-229? Amongst several applicable provisions affecting the CNMI is the issue of CNMI-only Transitional Worker visa classification (nonimmigrant worker) and its zero-down deadline of December 2015. However, the U.S. Congress provided the CNMI government a five-year transition period to begin replacing CWs with local U.S. workforce.

Contract workers application fees remitted to the CNMI government yearly is approximately $1.5 million to $2 million. Had this sum of money been allocated since 2009 to a defined and measurable occupational training plan for building local workforce capacity, we could have made great stride in our transition efforts.

The CW nonimmigrant worker visa classification's authorized deadline was originally to expire in December 2015 but the granting of a five-year extension by former U.S. Labor Secretary Tom Perez changed the "zero-down" date to 2019. This single issue consumed the energy and resources of both government and corporate leaders of the Commonwealth to the extent that previous and current governors included it in the 902 discussions.

Just imagine all the investments and the collective efforts of all parties in defending the CW program for the past 30-plus years, and if we could devote equally or similar concentration in implementing an achievable occupational local workforce training program, we could have made significant strides in building our local capacity for skilled workers.

The obsession of corporate leaders to perpetuate repressive wages through hiring of CWs, and our government leaders' propensity to be under the spell of corporate elites, leaves no powerful advocates to argue for mass concentrated production of our local workforce. This explains why, to this very moment, no bill has been introduced in either houses of the Legislature to establish a comprehensive occupational training program with adequate funding for building local workforce capacity.

Local leaders continue to aid and abet in the exploitation of foreign workers and deceive them that the 2019 deadline will be extended once again. It is farcical for any CNMI leader to think that Congress will grant its consent, especially congressional staffers, who understood the labor issues at the height of the garment industry and their unfavorable perception of local leaders' lack of political will to overcome ill intent. That is, unless, our leaders are in denial about our disappointing history in managing labor issues and think that Congress will be willing and receptive to any extension request, particularly with the ongoing use of CW slots and the illegal use of tourists as workers happening under their noses.

We must remember that administrative relief had already been granted. So, any more requests extending the mandates of P.L. 110-229 falls within the purview and authority of the U.S., and the likelihood of Congress consenting to such a request is not at all optimistic. Delegate Greg Sablan made reference to this improbable possibility during several comments regarding the same issue.

What is so abominable about the idea of building local workforce capacity? The answer lies in our leader's hidden motives! The promises of false pretenses keep revealing itself because it is motive alone that gives character to the actions of men.

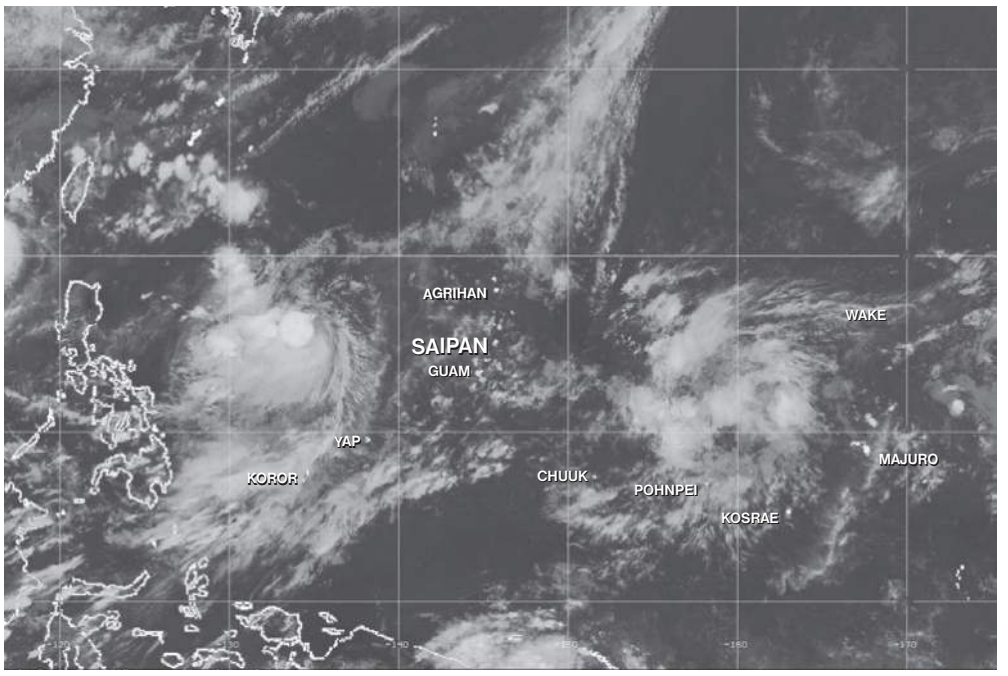
Daniel O. Quitugua
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:26 AM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

After a spell of southwest monsoon flow, gentle trade winds have returned, and the models show these trades persisting for the next week. The weather looks unusually settled for a while, considering we are in the heart of wet season. No big weather systems are looming for the Marianas, and only isolated showers are expected through the forecast period.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	86° / 78°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	63° / 55°
Beijing	Sunny	84° / 64°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	85° / 74°
London	Partly Cloudy	72° / 55°
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	91° / 72°
Manila	Cloudy	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	52° / 43°
Miami	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°
New York	Mostly Sunny	84° / 69°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	86° / 75°
Paris	Sunny	73° / 55°
Busan	Rain	79° / 73°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	81° / 63°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	90° / 68°
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	75° / 61°
Seoul	Rain	75° / 66°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	81° / 72°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	85° / 69°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
12:25 AM	LOW TIDE	0.99
5:34 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.76
12:39 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.02
7:18 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.82

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:04 AM	6:27 PM
Tuesday	6:04 AM	6:26 PM
Wednesday	6:04 AM	6:25 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:24 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	3:59 AM	5:00 PM
Tuesday	-	4:51 AM	5:45 PM
Wednesday	-	5:44 AM	6:29 PM
Thursday	-	6:38 AM	7:13 PM
Friday	-	7:31 AM	7:57 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	2, 3, 4
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
ZE582	3:40am	7:00am	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	4:45am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:00am	10:25am	1
JD396	4:50pm	8:15pm	4

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:00am	1, 2, 4, 6via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	3, 5, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:40pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1, 2, 3
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
ZE581	9:00pm	2:40am+1	Daily
LJ651	10:00pm	3:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:10am	3:30pm	4
JD395	10:05pm	5:30am+1	7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:20am	3:00pm	Daily

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:10pm	1:00am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA116/6395	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

BOH Foundation donates $10K to Pacific Century Fellows

Bank of Hawaii Foundation reiterated its unwavering commitment to Pacific Century Fellows-Marianas Chapter by donating $10,000 for PCF's Class of 2017.

Erlinda Alegre, BOH senior vice president and West Pacific Region manager, on behalf of BOH Foundation president Donna Tanoue, handed the check donation to PCF-Marianas Chapter president Jerry Tan in a brief ceremony last Aug. 15. Also present at the donation turnover ceremony were PCF-Marianas Chapter vice president Alex Sablan and treasurer Merlie Tolentino and BOH vice president and island manager Rose Sumor.

"Bank of Hawaii Foundation has approved a grant of $10,000 to Pacific Century Fellows-Marianas Chapter in continuing support of your organization's program. We thank you for your leadership in providing development opportunities to our emerging young leaders," Tanoue stated in the letter attached with the BOH Foundation's donation and addressed to Tan.

Tan thanked BOH and its foundation for their generosity, pointing out their steadfast support since PFC-Marianas Chapter started its program four years ago.

"We greatly appreciate your continued trust in the program's mission of providing leadership mentoring to another batch of young professionals in the business and government sectors in the Marianas region," Tan said.

The Class of 2017 is made up of 14 individuals, bringing the total of Fellows to 59 since the program started in 2014 through the help of Pacific Century Fellows founder and former Honolulu mayor Mufi Hannemann.

The newest batch of Fellows is in the final stages of the nine-month-long class, having gone through the first six activities and discussions of the leadership development program.

The Class of 2017 had its weekend retreats on Saipan in March and in Guam in June.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bank of Hawaii senior vice president and West Pacific Region manager Erlinda Alegre, center, hands over Bank of Hawaii Foundation's ceremonial check donation to Pacific Century Fellows-Marianas Chapter president Jerry Tan, fourth left, last Aug. 15 at the PCF office in Garapan. Also in the photo are PCF-Marianas Chapter vice president Alex Sablan, right, and treasurer Merlie Tolentino, left, and Bank of Hawaii vice president and island manager Rose Sumor, second left.

The group also had deliberations on tourism and gaming in April; infrastructure and environment in May; protecting our homeland in July, and public health last month. On Sept. 30, the Fellows will talk about education, while the CNMI government will be the topic for discussion in October. Members of Class of 2017 will then culminate their activities with a retreat in Hawaii from Nov. 12 to 16. Key leaders in the business and government sectors are invited as resource speakers in each phase of the program.

"We are happy to share that the program is slowly starting to achieve its mission. All Pacific Century Fellows benefit from and maximize the opportunities of increased networking among new arenas of exposure—business industries outside their expertise, non-profit advocacies, and government service, including elected leadership positions in the CNMI," Tan said.

The PCF-Marianas Chapter head also took pride in having more Fellows finding renewed passion in taking additional volunteer responsibilities in the community and priceless satisfaction in serving as elected officials in all levels of the government.

"[With] one Fellow at a time, we aspire to nurture the emerging generation of leaders for the Marianas region," Tan said. ***(BOH)***

TRIPLE J SAIPAN, INC.
TRIPLE J SAIPAN, INC.
Date 9/1/17
Pay to the order of TAN SIU LIN FOUNDATION $ 3,000
THREE THOUSAND DOLARS AND XX/100
2017 WE WILL NEVER FORGET FIELD OF HEROES SPONSORSHIP
TRIPLE J SAIPAN

FIELD OF HEROES DONATION

Triple J Saipan presents a $3,000 sponsorship check to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, the charitable arm of TanHoldings, on Friday, Sept. 1, 2017. The cash contribution will support the 2nd Annual We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes event to be held in remembrance of those who perished in the horrific events of Sept. 11, and also to express gratitude and honor everyday heroes: military veterans, service members, police officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, law enforcement officers, disaster responders and all other first responders. The display of flags will be held on Saipan from Sept.10 to Sept. 18, Sept. 5 to Sept. 17 on Tinian, and Sept. 7 to Sept. 22 on Rota. All proceeds from the event will go toward providing local support for veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. Present for the check presentation are, from left: Carline Sablan, Community Relations director, Corporate Affairs, TanHoldings; Tracy Guerrero, Triple J Saipan corporate controller; Perry Inos, Triple J Saipan business development manager; Catherine Attao, vice president for Corporate Affairs and Corporate Human Resources, TanHoldings; Merlie Tolentino, general manager, Tan Siu Lin Foundation; Jay Santos, general manager, Triple J Five Star Wholesale and Truckload; Robert Jones, chairman and CEO, Triple J Enterprises, Inc.; Jerry Tan, president, TanHoldings; Mike Sablan, VP of Finance & Administration, Triple J Enterprises, Inc.; Dan Murrell, senior vice president, Triple J Enterprises, Inc.; and Frank Ada, Triple J Saipan HR director.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

TanHoldings, TSL Foundation to hold '2017 Field of Heroes'

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation will host the 2nd Annual "We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes" on Sept. 5-17 at the Veterans Memorial Park on Tinian, Sept. 7-22 at the Corporal Joe G. Charfauros Jr. Veterans Memorial Park on Rota, and Sept. 10-18 at the American Memorial Park on Saipan.

Building on a highly successful first year's display, this year's posting of U.S. flags will bring the community together to remember the victims of the 9/11 terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon 16 years ago and honor community heroes—past and present service members, public safety officers, fire and rescue personnel, EMTs, paramedics, and other first responders.

Tribute ceremonies will be held at each event site—Sept. 8 on Rota at 4:30pm, Sept. 11 on Tinian at 10am, and Sept. 11 on Saipan immediately following the Freedom Walk, which begins at the Garapan Fishing Base at 5pm and ends at the American Memorial Park.

Remember a victim of the 9/11 attacks or honor a community hero by sponsoring a flag in their name.

For a small donation, sponsors may retain the flag at the close of the event or just have the flags posted in the name of a hero for the duration of the event. Commemorative T-shirts are also available for a small donation. All funds raised will go toward providing local support for PTSD or post-traumatic stress disorder.

Flag and T-shirt donations may be dropped off at I-Shops at Kanoa Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa or Paseo de Marianas, Shirley's Coffee Shops, the Tan Siu Lin Foundation Office on the second floor of the JP Center in Garapan, the Tinian Mayor's Office, or the Rota Mayor's Office.

"We invite the public to support the 'We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes' and walk through the orderly rows of flags," said TanHoldings president Jerry Tan. "A visit is necessary to truly appreciate the display of flags honoring 9/11 attack victims and community heroes. Donors, event sponsors, and visitors know to expect an inspiring and memorable display of red, white and blue while supporting a great cause," added Tan.

The "2017 We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes" is brought to you by the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, TanHoldings, American Memorial Park, IT&E, Power 99, Triple J Enterprises Saipan, GPPC, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Imperial Pacific International, *Marianas Variety*, Docomo Pacific, and many other sponsors. ***(PR)***

IT&E
August 30, 2017
Pay to the Order of Tan Holdings
$3,000.00
THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS ONLY
For 2017 We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes
life, motion & you!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IT&E presents a check for $3,000 as a heritage sponsor to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation/TanHoldings earlier this week. Present for the check presentation were, from left, Carline Sablan, community relations director, TanHoldings; Catherine Attao, vice president for corporate affairs and corporate human resources, TanHoldings; Rob Harrell, executive director for customer operations, IT&E; Merlie Tolentino, general manager, Tan Siu Lin Foundation; and Mel Naputi, administrative officer, Tan Siu Lin Foundation.

PSS family gathers to celebrate Labor Day festivities

On Friday, Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero led the Pubic School System family in celebrating the Labor Day festivities with their peers from various government departments, agencies and instrumentalities at the Garapan Fishing Base.

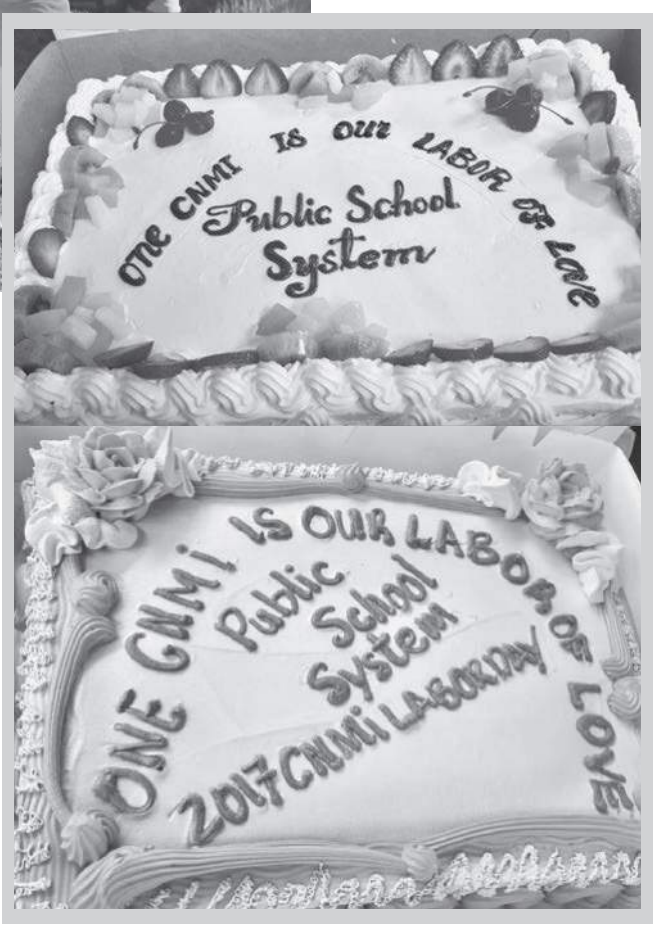
Pubic School System central office and school personnel and staff, among them, Koblerville Elementary School principal Jeremiah Benavente and Hopwood Junior Middle School principal Rizalina Liwag, beam with pride. PSS

PSS

The CNMI Labor Day festivities allowed Pubic School System staff and personnel to celebrate together.

PSS

Pubic School System personnel prepare their tent, ensuring it was a day to remember for everyone.



PSS

The Pubic School System celebrates Labor Day with cakes of your choice .

PSS

Associate Commissioner for Administrative Services Glenn Muna led Pubic School System staff in friendly competitions.

The Tanapag Middle School family led by principal Hilda Rios. PSS

PSS

The fun-filled festivity shows principals and staff participating in friendly games.

All of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota public schools' banners are seen around the Pubic School System tent at the Garapan Fishing Base. PSS

Business

AP EXCLUSIVE: Fewer carrying flood insurance despite risk

AP
In this Aug. 29, 2017 aerial file photo, a neighborhood near Addicks Reservoir are flooded by rain from Harvey, in Houston.

PLANTATION, Fla. (AP)—Amanda Spartz nearly did not renew her home's flood insurance policy after her first year in Florida. Two hurricanes came close to the Fort Lauderdale suburbs last year, but they didn't hit and her home isn't in a high-risk flood zone. She figured she could put the $450 annual premium, due next week, to another use.

Then Harvey hit Houston, its historic rains causing massive floods even in low-risk neighborhoods. Spartz, a business analyst, paid the bill this week.

If Spartz had dropped her policy, she would not have been alone. Far fewer Americans compared with five years ago are paying for flood insurance in coastal areas of the United States where hurricanes, storms and tidal surges pose a serious threat, according to an Associated Press analysis of government data. The center for the problem is South Florida, where Spartz lives. The top U.S. official overseeing the National Flood Insurance Program told AP that he wants to double the number of Americans who buy flood insurance.

"I was talking to my husband and I said that if something like Harvey happens here, I don't want to be on the hook," said Spartz, who relocated from Cincinnati. "It isn't a lot of money to save yourself the heartache if it does happen."

What's driving the drop in policies? Congress approved a price hike, making premiums more expensive, and maps of some high-risk areas were redrawn. Banks became lax at enforcing the requirement that any home with a federally insured mortgage in a high-risk area be covered. Memories of New Orleans underwater in 2005 after Hurricane Katrina have faded.

Without flood insurance, storm victims would have to draw on savings or go into debt—or perhaps be forced to sell.

The number of policies in force today has fallen in 43 of the 50 states since 2012, dropping from almost 5.5 million to just under 5 million, a decrease of 10 percent, AP's analysis found. In low-lying Florida, where by far more flood insurance policies are sold than in any other state, the drop has been almost 16 percent. In only two states—Hawaii and South Carolina—are at least 50 percent of homes in flood hazard areas insured under the program.

AP's analysis also showed the percentage of homes in high-risks areas that have flood insurance is sometimes frighteningly low. In Spartz's home of Broward County, it's only 13 percent. In Houston's Harris County, it's 28 percent. In New Orleans, it's 46 percent.

Roy Wright, the director of the insurance program, which is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, acknowledges that the decrease is alarming and says he hopes to double the number of policies in the near future. He also wants to persuade more communities to limit construction in high-risk flood zones. Congress is likely to reauthorize the insurance program before it expires Sept. 30.

President Donald Trump's homeland security adviser, Tom Bossert, said he expects changes to the flood program to be debated on Capitol Hill later this fall, after the immediate Houston recovery is underway.

"This administration's been pretty clear that we'd like to see some responsible reforms to the National Flood Insurance Program," he said Thursday at the White House. "I don't think now's the time to debate those things."

Last year, the program collected about $3.3 billion in premiums and paid out about $3.7 billion for losses. FEMA paid out $3.5 billion per year over the past 12 years, which included Katrina.

"It is about consumer choice. It's about consumer education. It's about an education related to flood risk. It's about communities galvanizing around it. It's also about communities making choices about how they want to build going into the future so that people are at less risk. When they are at less risk, their premiums are cheaper," Wright told the AP.

One way to compel more homeowners to buy policies would be for banks to enforce the coverage requirement for homeowners with a federally insured mortgage if they live in a Special Flood Hazard Area. Experts said that's not happening. Many homeowners let the policy lapse after a few years, correctly thinking the bank will not check. Or a bank will sell mortgages to another bank, and paperwork on whether homes require flood insurance isn't reviewed. About 7 out of 10 homeowners have a mortgage.

White House still deciding who gets Trump's Harvey donation

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House is still trying to decide who will get President Donald Trump's pledged $1 million donation for Harvey storm relief efforts, one of the largest gifts ever given by a president but one that has evoked his checkered charitable past.

The president plans to make the donation, which is expected to come from his personal fortune, early next week, and it may be split among several groups doing relief work in storm-ravaged areas of Texas and Louisiana. White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Friday that the president hasn't finalized where the money will go, raising some concern that charitable groups may end up competing for the money.

For the second straight day, Sanders invited reporters to make recommendations for which groups should get the money.

"If you have suggestions, he is very open to hearing those," Sanders said.

The president met with three relief groups—the Red Cross, Southern Baptist Relief and Salvation Army—in the Oval Office on Friday and pledged the nation's support to those affected by Harvey.

"Families have given food and shelter to those in need. Houses of worship have organized efforts to clean up communities and repair damaged homes," Trump said during an earlier meeting with religious leaders. "People have never seen anything quite like this. Individuals of every background are striving for the same goal: to aid and comfort people facing devastating losses."

Trump traveled to Texas on Tuesday and is scheduled to return Saturday to meet with storm survivors and inspect some of the destruction.

There has been some concern that, if Trump opted to donate to only one group or just a few, there could be intense competition among relief agencies for the money and the publicity that comes with it.

But Rick Cohen, communications director for the National Council of Nonprofits, said there's already intense competition among organizations for Harvey donations.

"He should be looking to make an informed contribution, and it seems that he's doing so," said Cohen, noting that the president has stayed abreast of conditions on the ground and is planning to see it first-hand.

White House officials said the donation would come from the president's personal fortune and not his business, the Trump Organization, or his charitable foundation.

Gasoline prices head higher while motorists panic

DALLAS (AP)—The spike in gasoline prices in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey has hit the accelerator.

The national average for regular was $2.56 a gallon by late Friday afternoon, an increase of 20 cents in the last week, according to GasBuddy.

Prices jumped at least 10 cents a gallon in 24 hours in Texas, Ohio, Georgia and the Mid-Atlantic states, travel club AAA reported.

The nationwide average was already higher than most experts had given as a worst-case scenario when flooding from the devastating storm began knocking out refineries along the Texas Gulf Coast a week ago.

Two of the leading price-forecasting analysts, GasBuddy's Patrick DeHaan and Tom Kloza of the Oil Price Information Service, now see the national average peaking as high as $2.75 a gallon in the next few days.

Many stations in the Dallas area were out of gas Friday, and those that had it were often charging more than $3 a gallon—and drawing long lines of desperate drivers.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott tried to reassure drivers that there is plenty of gasoline.

"Don't worry, we will not run out," Abbott said, "and we will be back into our normal pattern before you know it."

The analysts said interruptions in supply were isolated and lines were largely the result of people rushing out to top off their tanks. DeHaan said only one rack, or wholesale gasoline terminal, out of the six in the Dallas area was dry.

"There is enough gas out there," he said. "It's just a matter of getting it to the right places before motorists panic."

Valero Energy, a major refiner for the Texas market, said it was shipping only slightly reduced volumes to major cities in the state, although deliveries in Houston were still hampered by flooding.

Long lines could pop up next in the Southeastern and Eastern states, as far north as New York, which get much of their gasoline from the Colonial Pipeline that taps into refineries in Texas and Louisiana. The operator doesn't expect the pipeline to resume normal operations until Sunday. On top of that, analysts said some gasoline from the Northeast is being diverted to Florida, and gasoline exports are contributing to the higher prices.

The U.S. now exports large amounts of gasoline, especially to Mexico and other parts of Latin America, and buyers there are competing with domestic distributors and bidding up prices.

How long this lasts will depend on how quickly the Gulf Coast refineries are back in business, especially the giants like Motiva's Port Arthur, Texas, plant and the Exxon Mobil refinery in Baytown, near Houston.

One Chevron station in downtown Dallas that was selling regular for $2.29 a gallon before Harvey bumped up its price to $2.99 on Thursday, and a nearby Shell station was asking $3.97.

QuikTrip, one of the nation's largest convenience store chains, temporarily halted gasoline sales at about half its 135 stores in the Dallas-Fort Worth area to send the fuel to a few designated stores across the area, said company spokesman Mike Thornbrugh.

Ten Texas refineries remained shut down Friday and another 10 were running at reduced rates or restarting, according to the Energy Department. About 4 million barrels per day of refining capacity was shut down—more than one-fifth of the nation's supply. Some of that supply is expected to return within a week.

Nation

Toxic waste sites flooded in Houston area

HIGHLANDS, Texas (AP)—As Dwight Chandler sipped beer and swept out the thick muck caked inside his devastated home, he worried whether Harvey's floodwaters had also washed in pollution from the old acid pit just a couple blocks away.

Long a center of the nation's petrochemical industry, the Houston metro area has more than a dozen Superfund sites, designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as being among America's most intensely contaminated places. Many are now flooded, with the risk that waters were stirring dangerous sediment.

The Highlands Acid Pit site near Chandler's home was filled in the 1950s with toxic sludge and sulfuric acid from oil and gas operations. Though 22,000 cubic yards of hazardous waste and soil were excavated from the acid pits in the 1980s, the site is still considered a potential threat to groundwater, and the EPA maintains monitoring wells there.

When he was growing up in Highlands, Chandler, now 62, said he and his friends used to swim in the by-then abandoned pit.

"My daddy talks about having bird dogs down there to run and the acid would eat the pads off their feet," he recounted on Thursday. "We didn't know any better."

The Associated Press surveyed seven Superfund sites in and around Houston during the flooding. All had been inundated with water, in some cases many feet deep.

On Saturday, hours after the AP published its first report, the EPA said it had reviewed aerial imagery confirming that 13 of the 41 Superfund sites in Texas were flooded by Harvey and were "experiencing possible damage" due to the storm.

AP

In this Aug. 31, 2017 file photo, a barbed-wire fence encircles the Highlands Acid Pit that was flooded by water from the nearby San Jacinto River as a result from Harvey in Highlands, Texas.

The statement confirmed the AP's reporting that the EPA had not yet been able to physically visit the Houston-area sites, saying the sites had "not been accessible by response personnel." EPA staff had checked on two Superfund sites in Corpus Christi on Thursday and found no significant damage.

AP journalists used a boat to document the condition of one flooded Houston-area Superfund site, but accessed others with a vehicle or on foot. The EPA did not respond to questions about why its personnel had not yet been able to do so.

"Teams are in place to investigate possible damage to these sites as soon flood waters recede, and personnel are able to safely access the sites," the EPA statement said.

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, speaking with reporters at a news conference on Saturday after the AP report was published, said he wants the EPA "in town to address the situation."

Turner said he didn't know about the potential environmental concerns soon enough to discuss them with President Donald Trump.

"Now we're turning out attention to that," he said. "It is always a concern. The environment is very concerning, and we'll get right on top of it."

At the Highlands Acid Pit on Thursday, the Keep Out sign on the barbed-wire fence encircling the 3.3-acre site barely peeked above the churning water from the nearby San Jacinto River.

A fishing bobber was caught in the chain link, and the air smelled bitter. A rusted incinerator sat just behind the fence, poking out of the murky soup.

Across the road at what appeared to be a more recently operational plant, a pair of tall white tanks had tipped over into a heap of twisted steel. It was not immediately clear what, if anything, might have been inside them when the storm hit.

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt has called cleaning up Superfund sites a top priority, even as he has taken steps to roll back or delay rules aimed at preventing air and water pollution. Trump's proposed 2018 budget seeks to cut money for the Superfund program by 30 percent, though congressional Republicans are likely to approve a less severe reduction.

Like Trump, Pruitt has expressed skepticism about the predictions of climate scientists that warmer air and seas will produce stronger, more drenching storms.

Under the Obama administration, the EPA conducted a nationwide assessment of the increased threat to Superfund sites posed by climate change, including rising sea levels and stronger hurricanes. Of the more than 1,600 sites reviewed as part of the 2012 study, 521 were determined to be in 1-in-100 year and 1-in-500 year flood zones. Nearly 50 sites in coastal areas could also be vulnerable to rising sea levels.

The threats to human health and wildlife from rising waters that inundate Superfund sites vary widely depending on the specific contaminants and the concentrations involved. The EPA report specifically noted the risk that floodwaters might carry away and spread toxic materials over a wider area.

Unstable plant

The chemicals that exploded (organic peroxides) at a Texas plant are so unstable that they must be kept cool or they can ignite a runaway scenario

Organic peroxides

- An organic peroxide is any organic (carbon-containing) compound having two oxygen atoms joined together. This chemical group is called a "peroxy" group.
- Organic peroxides and mixtures containing an organic peroxide are used as accelerators, activators, catalysts, cross-linking agents, curing agents and hardeners.
- The plastics and rubber industries are the heaviest users of organic peroxides. Other products include pharmaceuticals and construction materials.
- The flashpoint is 97.7 degrees (36.5 degrees Celsius), which is nearly body temperature. It can easily get to 98 degrees in a car or building without power or air conditioning.

Source: AP, ccohs.ca
Graphic: Staff, TNS

Texas on long road to recovery 9 days after Harvey

HOUSTON (AP)—A city that lost its drinking water system is struggling to restore service and a crippled chemical plant that twice has been the scene of explosions remains a concern nine days after Harvey ripped across Texas.

Officials in Beaumont, population almost 120,000, worked to repair their water treatment plant, which failed after the swollen Neches River inundated the main intake system and backup pumps failed. The Army Corps of Engineers sent pumps, and an Exxon-Mobil team built and installed a temporary intake pipe in an effort to refill a city reservoir. Exxon has a refinery and chemical plants in Beaumont.

In Crosby, outside of Houston, authorities continued to monitor the Arkema plant where three trailers of highly unstable compounds ignited in recent days, sending thick black smoke and tall flames into the air. A Harris County fire marshal spokeswoman said there were no active fires at the facility, but six more trailers were being watched.

The soggy and battered city of Houston began burying its dead and taking steps toward the long recovery ahead. Friends and family gathered Saturday in Tyler to remember a former Texas high school football and track coach whose body was found Monday.

The storm is blamed for at least 44 deaths. Also, fire officials in the community of New Waverly, about 55 miles (88.5 kilometers) north of Houston, said a 6-month-old baby was missing and presumed dead after being ripped out of its parents' arms and swept away by floodwaters, the Houston Chronicle reported.

Houston's school district said up to 12,000 students would be sent to different schools because of flood-damaged buildings. Harvey flooding is believed to have damaged at least 156,000 dwellings in Harris County, which includes the nation's fourth-largest city.

Kim Martinez, 28, waited Saturday for insurance adjusters to come to her Southbelt/Ellington neighborhood, a devastated middle-class area of southeast Houston.

"You can be prepared for anything but not a monster storm like Harvey," said her mother, Maria Martinez, 63.

Some were able to count their blessings even as they faced a daunting recovery.

"I'm just praying on some help right now so I can get this over, behind me and try not to think about it," said Georgia Calhoun, whose family is sleeping on air mattresses inside her damaged home after taking ruined furniture to the curb.

Not everyone was able to think about rebuilding yet.

About 200 people waved signs and shouted as they rallied Saturday outside a still-flooded subdivision in the west Houston suburb of Katy, demanding answers about when they will be able to return home. Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner has warned residents that their homes could remain flooded for up to 15 days because of ongoing releases of water from two reservoirs protecting downtown. Turner on Saturday ordered mandatory evacuations for an area that's been inundated by water from the reservoirs. About 4,700 dwellings are in the area, and Turner said about 300 people have refused to leave.

The school district assessed its own losses. Twenty-two of its 245 schools had extensive damage that will keep them closed for months. Though school is now set to start on Sept. 11, that could change.

President Donald Trump arrived in Houston for his second visit to the devastated region. He and first lady Melania Trump met with Harvey evacuees taking shelter at the NRG Center in Houston, where they spent time with children and helped to serve food. Later, they helped load trucks with relief supplies at a church in suburban Houston. They also visited Lake Charles, Louisiana, to survey damage.

Asia

Thousands more Rohingya refugees flee by land, sea

SHAH PORIR DWIP, Bangladesh (AP)—Tens of thousands more people have crossed by boat and on foot into Bangladesh in the last 24 hours as they flee violence in western Myanmar, the UNHCR said Saturday.

Both Myanmar's security officials and insurgents from the Rohingya ethnic minority are accusing each other of burning down villages and committing atrocities in Myanmar's Rakhine state. The military has said nearly 400 people, most of them insurgents, have died in armed clashes.

The violence has triggered a flood of refugees crossing mostly on foot into Bangladesh, though some were fleeing in wooden boats.

"Roughly 60,000 have arrived in Bangladesh since the violence erupted on Aug. 25," said U.N. Refugee Agency spokeswoman Vivian Tan. That is about 20,000 more than the number local officials had estimated on Friday.

Refugees who had arrived at the Bangladeshi fishing village of Shah Porir Dwip described bombs exploding and Rohingyas being burned alive.

"We fled to Bangladesh to save our lives," said a man who only gave his first name, Karim. "The military and extremist Rakhine are burning us, burning us, killing us, setting our village on fire."

He said he paid 12,000 Bangladeshi taka, or about $150, for each of his family members to be smuggled on a wooden boat to Bangladesh after soldiers killed 110 Rohingya in their village of Kunnapara, near the coastal town of Maungdaw.

"The military destroyed everything. After killing some Rohingya, the military burned their houses and shops," he said. "We have a baby who is 8 days only, and an old woman who is 105.

Satellite imagery analyzed by Human Rights Watch shows hundreds of buildings had been destroyed in at least 17 sites across Rakhine state since Aug. 25, including some 700 structures that appeared to have been burned down in just the village of Chein Khar Li, the international rights watchdog said in a statement Saturday.

Ali Hossain, a deputy commissioner in Cox's Bazar, said Bangladesh was struggling to cope as "the flow of Rohingya refugees is continuing by boat and the land route."

The Red Cross has sent teams to refugee camps, in coordination with the local Red Crescent Society, to "assess the refugees' requirements. The influx is scattered at different places. The task is challenging for us," said spokeswoman Misada Saif.

"We hope to start supplying water and food soon," Saif said.

The violence erupted on Aug. 25, when insurgents attacked Myanmar police and paramilitary posts in what they said was an effort to protect minority Rohingya. In response, the military unleashed what it called "clearance operations" to root out the insurgents.

Advocates for the Rohingya, an oppressed Muslim minority in overwhelmingly Buddhist Myanmar, say security forces and vigilantes both have attacked and burned villages, shooting civilians and causing others to flee.

The government blames the insurgents for burning their own homes and killing Buddhists in Rakhine. Longstanding tension between the Rohingya Muslims and Buddhists erupted in bloody rioting in 2012, forcing more than 100,000 Rohingya into displacement camps, where many still live.

ASIAN BRIEFS

China says Japan shouldn't slap North Korea with sanctions

BEIJING (AP)—China has advised Japan not to impose sanctions unilaterally on North Korea after Pyongyang launched a test missile that flew over Japan before falling into the Pacific Ocean, the Chinese foreign ministry said Saturday. The test-firing Tuesday has intensified fear and reignited a debate in Japan about revising its defense plan after decades of pursuing more pacifist policies. A statement from China's foreign ministry said the minister also urged his Japanese counterpart a day earlier not to consider unilateral sanctions in response. Foreign Minister Wang Yi said "unilateral sanctions are not in line with the spirit of the (U.N.) Security Council resolutions, and there is no basis in international law for them, (therefore) Japan should not make a misjudgment." Wang also said China hoped that Japan would work to improve bilateral relations by "restoring mutual trust and rebuilding friendship instead of thinking about futile matters."

Gunmen kills 2 in attack on opposition lawmaker in Pakistan

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP)—Pakistani police say two gunmen targeting an ethnic party lawmaker after Eid prayers instead shot down two others, including a child, in the southern port city of Karachi. Police officer Pir Mohammad Shah said lawmaker Khawaja Izharul Hasan escaped uninjured in the attack Saturday but the child and a police officer were killed. Shah said one of the attackers was also gunned down by police during a chase. Hasan belongs to the Muttahida Qaumi Movement, which represents the Urdu speaking population. He was meeting and greeting people after Eid prayers when gunmen struck in a north Karachi neighborhood. The party was divided after its self-exiled founder, Altaf Hussain, uttered anti-Pakistan remarks in London last year. He is wanted in many criminal cases back home.

Filipinos accused of links to Marawi siege ordered freed

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine prosecutors have dismissed rebellion complaints against 59 men who were stopped by police and army troops at two checkpoints in the south and accused of attempting to join Islamic State-linked militants who laid siege to a southern city. Senior government prosecutor Peter Ong said Thursday the complaints filed by the military against the Muslim men were dismissed because of a lack of strong evidence, and authorities were ordered to free all the men. "It is clear that respondents were not committing the crime of rebellion or any crime at the time of their arrests," Ong and two other prosecutors said in their findings, a copy of which was seen by The Associated Press. The men, who traveled in two big groups, may have sparked the suspicion of troops and police at checkpoints because of the Marawi siege, "but suspicion alone is not sufficient to arrest, detain, charge and indict respondents," the prosecutors said.

World

Russia lashes out after Trump orders diplomatic posts closed

MOSCOW (AP)—Russia accused the United States on Friday of a "gross violation of international law" after the Trump administration gave Moscow two days to shutter diplomatic outposts in San Francisco and other American cities.

AP

Russian President Vladimir Putin attends the World Judo Championships in Budapest, Hungary, Monday, Aug. 28, 2017.

As Russian diplomats rushed to meet the Saturday deadline, black smoke was seen billowing out of the chimney at the San Francisco consulate, one of three Russian facilities being forcibly closed. Firefighters, who were turned away by Russian officials when they responded to the scene, said the Russians were burning something in their fireplace.

In Moscow, the Russian government claimed that U.S. officials were planning to search both the consulate and apartments used by their diplomats on Saturday, though there were no indications from the U.S. suggesting that was the case. The State Department said merely that it planned to "secure and maintain" the properties and that Russia wouldn't be allowed to use them for "diplomatic, consular, or residential purposes" any longer.

Still, the Kremlin appeared to be wrestling with how forcefully to react to the U.S. order, the latest in a series of escalating retaliatory measures between the former Cold War foes. President Vladimir Putin's foreign policy adviser, Yuri Ushakov, said Russia needs to "think carefully about how we could respond" to one of the thorniest diplomatic confrontations between Washington and Moscow in decades.

"One does not want to go into a frenzy, because someone has to be reasonable and stop," Ushakov said.

The diplomatic machinations came the day after the Trump administration ordered three Russian facilities to close: the San Francisco consulate and trade missions in New York and Washington. The Russian Embassy in Washington is not affected, nor are three other Russian consulates in the U.S., including in New York.

The Trump administration said the order was retaliation for the Kremlin's "unwarranted and detrimental" demand last month that the U.S. substantially reduce the size of its diplomatic staff in Russia. But Russia, for its part, justified its call for cuts to U.S. embassy and consular personnel as a reaction to new sanctions the U.S. Congress approved in July.

Activists: IS convoy treks ahead despite US strikes threat

BEIRUT (AP)—Dozens of Islamic State group members and their families have crossed into areas controlled by the extremists despite U.S. threats to bomb the convoy days after they left the Lebanon-Syria border, Syrian opposition activists said Saturday.

The opposition activists' announcement came after the U.S.-led coalition fighting IS said the 17-bus convoy of IS militants and their families that left the Lebanon-Syria border six days ago is still stranded in the Syrian desert.

More than 300 militants and their families are in the convoy after vacating the border area as part of a Hezbollah-negotiated deal to transport them to an IS-held town in eastern Syria near the Iraqi border.

Hezbollah said in a statement Saturday that warplanes of the U.S.-led coalition are still preventing the convoy from moving east and barring anyone on the government side from reaching them warning that the wounded and elderly people could die.

Hezbollah said that six buses are still in areas controlled by the Syrian government and warned that if they are hit civilians will be killed. It added that if aid does not reach the convoy because of the aerial imposed siege, "only the Americans will bear the responsibility" for what happens.

"The so-called international community and international institutions should intervene to prevent the occurrence of an ugly massacre," the Lebanese group said.

The U.S.-led coalition issued a statement Friday saying it has sought an unspecified solution that would save the women and children in the convoy from further suffering.

Earlier this week, an airstrike by the U.S.-led coalition created a crater in a road that the buses had intended to take and destroyed a small bridge to prevent the convoy from moving further east.

Rami Abdurrahman, who heads the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, said dozens of fighters and civilians left the buses and drove into IS-held parts of the eastern province of Deir el-Zour in 12 civilian vehicles.

Opposition activist Omar Abu Laila, who is from Deir el-Zour and currently lives in Europe, gave an account similar to that of Abdurrahman adding that most of them have crossed over. Abu Laila is with DeirEzzor 24, an activist group that has reporters throughout the eastern province.

Meanwhile, in central Syria, government forces captured wide areas from IS under the cover of Russian airstrikes forcing hundreds of people to flee to government-controlled areas as well as areas run by insurgent groups.

The Russian Defense Ministry said Saturday that Syrian forces backed by Russian warplanes have "liberated" the town of Aqeirbat, defeating a large IS contingent. "The last major center of resistance of terrorists in the central part of Syria has been eliminated," the ministry said in a statement cited by state news agency TASS.

Health & Fitness

Speech therapy after a stroke

Dear Mayo Clinic: My mother had a stroke six months ago. Her mobility has returned to near normal. She can read and understands others when they speak. But she has a lot of difficulty talking, often struggling to find the words she wants to say. She's frustrated but refuses to go to speech therapy. She doesn't think it will do any good. What does speech therapy after a stroke involve? Could it help someone like my mother?

Generally, speech therapy can help those whose speech is affected by a stroke.

DREAMSTIME/TNS

The overall effectiveness of speech therapy for people who have communication difficulties after a stroke largely depends on the area of the brain the stroke affected and the severity of the brain damage. Generally, speech therapy can help those whose speech is affected by a stroke.

The most common type of stroke is an ischemic stroke, in which the blood supply to part of the brain is reduced significantly or cut off. As a result, brain tissue can't get the oxygen and nutrients it needs. Within minutes, brain cells start to die. The brain damage caused by a stroke can lead to a variety of disabilities, including problems with speech and language.

The medical term to describe some of the communication problems that happen due to a stroke is "aphasia." There are several kinds of aphasia. The one you describe in your mother's situation sounds like nonfluent, or Broca's, aphasia. It occurs when a stroke damages the language network in the left frontal area of the brain. People with nonfluent aphasia typically can understand what others say, but they have trouble forming complete sentences and putting together the words they want to use.

Nonfluent aphasia, which can be a significant barrier to clear communication, often leads to frustration. Working with a speech-language pathologist can help. The goal of speech and language therapy for aphasia is to improve communication by restoring as much language as possible, teaching how to compensate for lost language skills, and learning other methods of communicating

Speech-language pathologists (sometimes called speech therapists) use a variety of techniques to improve communication. After initial evaluation by a speech-language pathologist, rehabilitation may include working one on one with a speech-language pathologist and participating in groups with others who have aphasia. The group setting can be particularly helpful, because it offers a low-stress environment where people can practice communication skills, such as starting a conversation, speaking in turn and clarifying misunderstandings.

A speech-language pathologist also can direct your mother to resources she can use outside of speech-language therapy sessions, such as computer programs and mobile apps that aid in relearning words and sounds. Props and communication aids, such as pictures, notecards with common phrases, and a small pad of paper and pen, often are encouraged as part of speech-language rehabilitation and can improve a person's ability to convey his or her thoughts.

You, other family members, and friends also can help your mother rebuild her communication abilities. Consistently include her in conversations. Give her plenty of time to talk. Don't finish her sentences for her or correct errors. Keep distractions to a minimum by turning off the TV and other electronic devices while you talk. Allow time for relaxed conversation.

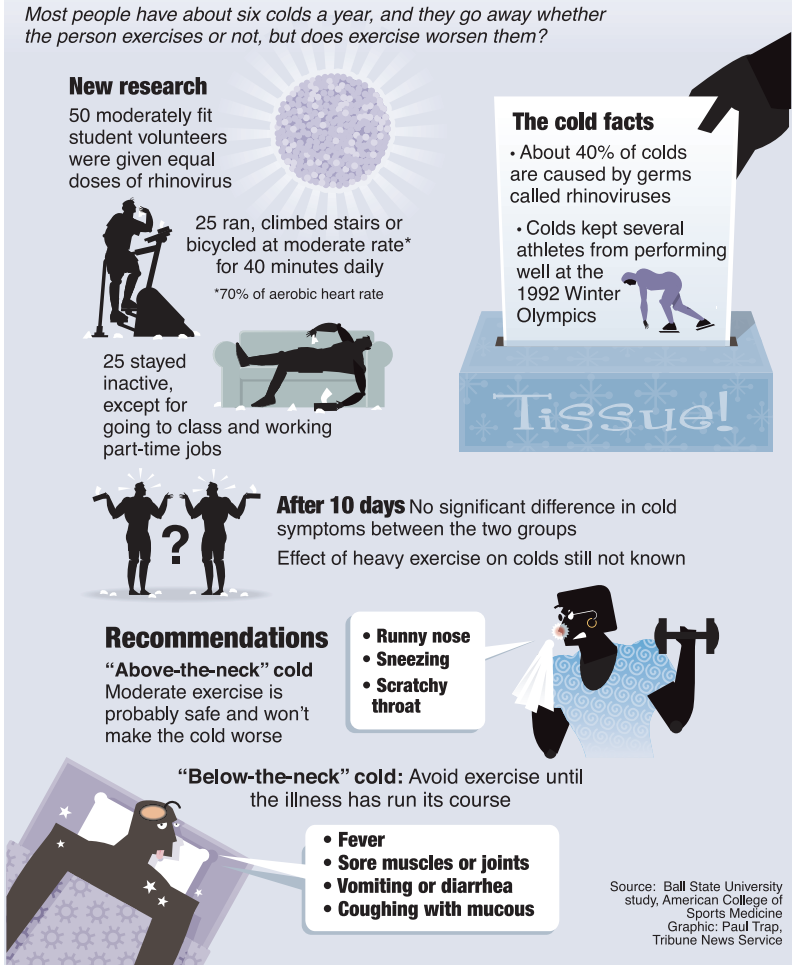
Recovering language skills can be a slow process. With patience and persistence, however, most people can make significant progress, even if they don't completely return to the level of function they had before a stroke. It is important to seek treatment for aphasia, because, if left untreated, communication barriers can lead to embarrassment, relationship problems and, in some cases, depression.

Encourage your mother to make an appointment with her health care provider to discuss speech-language therapy and help her find a speech-language pathologist who has experience working with people who have had a stroke. ***(Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS)***

Personal Trainer

Does exercise make a cold worse?

Most people have about six colds a year, and they go away whether the person exercises or not, but does exercise worsen them?


New research
50 moderately fit student volunteers were given equal doses of rhinovirus
25 ran, climbed stairs or bicycled at moderate rate* for 40 minutes daily
*70% of aerobic heart rate
25 stayed inactive, except for going to class and working part-time jobs
The cold facts
• About 40% of colds are caused by germs called rhinoviruses
• Colds kept several athletes from performing well at the 1992 Winter Olympics
Tissue!
After 10 days No significant difference in cold symptoms between the two groups
Effect of heavy exercise on colds still not known
Recommendations
"Above-the-neck" cold
Moderate exercise is probably safe and won't make the cold worse
• Runny nose
• Sneezing
• Scratchy throat
"Below-the-neck" cold: Avoid exercise until the illness has run its course
• Fever
• Sore muscles or joints
• Vomiting or diarrhea
• Coughing with mucous

Source: Ball State University study, American College of Sports Medicine
Graphic: Paul Trap, Tribune News Service

This advertorial is sponsored by Tan Siu Lin Foundation

Tan Holdings

HEALTH IS WEALTH

Tan Siu Lin Foundation

Vinegar and your health

By BARBARA QUINN
THE MONTEREY COUNTY HERALD/TNS

Studies on humans have shown that doses of vinegar (usually between 2 teaspoons to 2 tablespoons a day) helped slow the rise in blood sugars after a meal by as much as 20% compared to those who did not take vinegar.

DREAMSTIME/TNS

My friend Terry told me how—while holding her nose because it tastes so bad—she takes a spoonful of vinegar mixed in water every morning.

"Is there really anything to this?" she asked me. "I mean health-wise."

Here's what I found out, Terry:

Vinegar has been around for thousands of years, according to a 2006 review article on this topic in MedGenMed. It probably began when unattended grape juice fermented to wine which further fermented into vinegar. In fact, vinegar gets its name from the French word for "sour wine."

Most any carbohydrate-containing food can be fermented to vinegar, including apples, berries, grapes and rice. The process of fermentation alters the chemical nature of food, say scientists, which contributes to its health value. For example, antioxidant compounds called polyphenols are produced during fermentation; these substances are currently being studied for their potential to prevent or improve conditions like diabetes, cancer and heart disease.

Perhaps the most evidence for vinegar's effect on health involves its role in helping to lower blood sugar levels in people with or without diabetes. Studies on humans have shown that doses of vinegar (usually between 2 teaspoons to 2 tablespoons a day) helped slow the rise in blood sugars after a meal by as much as 20 percent compared to those who did not take vinegar. Researchers theorize this may be due to acetic acid in vinegar that keeps sugars and starches (carbohydrates) in food from being completely digested.

Other studies hint that vinegar may help control our appetites (maybe because we have to hold our noses to get it down?) In any case, when compared to a similar dose of unsweetened cranberry juice, volunteers who took 2 tablespoons of red raspberry vinegar daily for a month lost more weight.

Most studies on vinegar and cancer have been done with animals, namely rats. However, in laboratory studies on human cancer cells, scientists were encouraged to learn that Japanese rice vinegar "Kurosu" and a vinegar made from sugar cane called "Kibizu" slowed the growth of certain cancerous cells.

As usual with health claims, experts say we need more well-conducted research before we can be absolutely sure about the health benefits of vinegar. For example, "mother" of vinegar refers to a harmless slime that grows on the surface of vinegar as it ferments over time. Claims that this is the good stuff for your health have not been substantiated.

In the meantime, vinegar is a great accompaniment to salads, meats and other foods we enjoy daily. Nutritionally, 2 tablespoons of apple cider vinegar has zero calories, zero fat, zero sodium, and zero carbs. Splash it on salads, meats and other foods you enjoy. Or hold your nose and drink it.

Barbara Quinn is a registered dietitian and certified diabetes educator affiliated with Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula. She is the author of "Quinn-Essential Nutrition" (Westbow Press, 2015). Email her at to barbara@quinnessentialnutrition.com.

Life & Style

Tests confirm gravesite of 1800s serial killer H.H. Holmes

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Tests show that the remains in a suburban Philadelphia grave are indeed those of a 19th century serial killer, quelling rumors that he'd conned his way out of execution and escaped from prison.

A judge approved the exhumation of Dr. H.H. Holmes' grave earlier this year. Descendants requested it for a series called "American Ripper" on the History Channel. Part of the show looked at whether Holmes escaped, and scientists' findings were revealed in this week's final episode.

Holmes, the pseudonym of New Hampshire-born physician Herman Webster Mudgett, is believed to have killed an undetermined number people at his hotel of horrors during the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. It featured a bizarre labyrinth of windowless rooms, secret passageways, false floors, trapdoors and a vault. Most of the rooms had gas vents that were controlled from Mudgett's bedroom. Many of the rooms were soundproof and could only be locked from the outside.

But it was the murder of his business partner in Philadelphia that led to his conviction and hanging in 1896.

Holmes had left specific instructions for his burial. He was to be laid in a pine box and the box was then filled with cement, buried 10 feet (3.05 meters) in the ground and covered again with cement.

University of Pennsylvania anthropologist Samantha Cox, who did the forensic science on the exhumed remains, tells the NewsWorks online site that because of his unique burial requests, Holmes' body had not properly decomposed.

She said his clothes were almost perfectly preserved and his moustache was intact on his skull. But the corpse had decayed.

"It stank," Cox told the news site. "Once it gets to that point we can't do anything with it. We can't test it, can't get any DNA out of it." Holmes' teeth were used to identify him, she said.

WCAU-TV reports the remains were re-interred at Holy Cross Cemetery in Yeadon.

Holmes was the subject of the 2003 best-selling book, "The Devil in the White City," by Erik Larson.

Mayweather-McGregor is a pay-per-view smash

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Conor McGregor's improbable challenge of Floyd Mayweather Jr. was a hit at the box office and could end up the biggest pay-per-view ever, with an estimated 50 million people watching in the United States alone.

Preliminary figures released by Showtime PPV on Friday showed the fight was tracking in the "mid to high" 4 million range, threatening the 4.6 million record set by Mayweather's 2015 fight with Manny Pacquiao. Showtime's Stephen Espinoza said the number will likely rise some as more firm figures come in.

"It's a little soon to be predicting a record," said Espinoza, who heads sports for Showtime. "But the record is definitely within reach."

Estimates vary, but if an average of 10 people watched each pay-per-view the total audience for Saturday's fight in the US could reach 50 million people, or nearly one in six Americans.

"I'd absolutely call this a complete success," Espinoza said. "This was a fight that had massive expectations in both the fight itself and the business results. It lived up to those expectations in every respect."

At $99.95 a buy, the pay-per-view generated at least $450 million in revenue on domestic television alone, money from which each fighter gets an undisclosed percentage. Mayweather estimated after the fight he would make $300-350 million, while McGregor said his take would be around $100 million.

Though the fight suffered some at the box office because of extremely high ticket prices, it hit the kind of numbers on pay-per-view that promoters were hoping for. When added all together the fight could generate some $600 million in total revenue, which would be along the lines of the Mayweather-Pacquiao fight.

Mayweather stopped McGregor in the 10th round, the first time he has had a real stoppage in nearly a decade. But McGregor's performance also won some applause, as he boxed better in his first boxing match as a pro than many thought he would.

Assuming the preliminary estimates hold up, Mayweather will have participated in the top four pay-per-view events of all time.

Medical issues moves Tom Jones tour

LONDON (AP)—Veteran singer Tom Jones announced Saturday that he was reluctantly postponing a U.S. concert tour scheduled to kick off next week because of health issues.

The 77-year-old Welsh crooner said on Twitter that his fall tour would be delayed "following medical advice. He did not reveal the state of his health or provide further details.

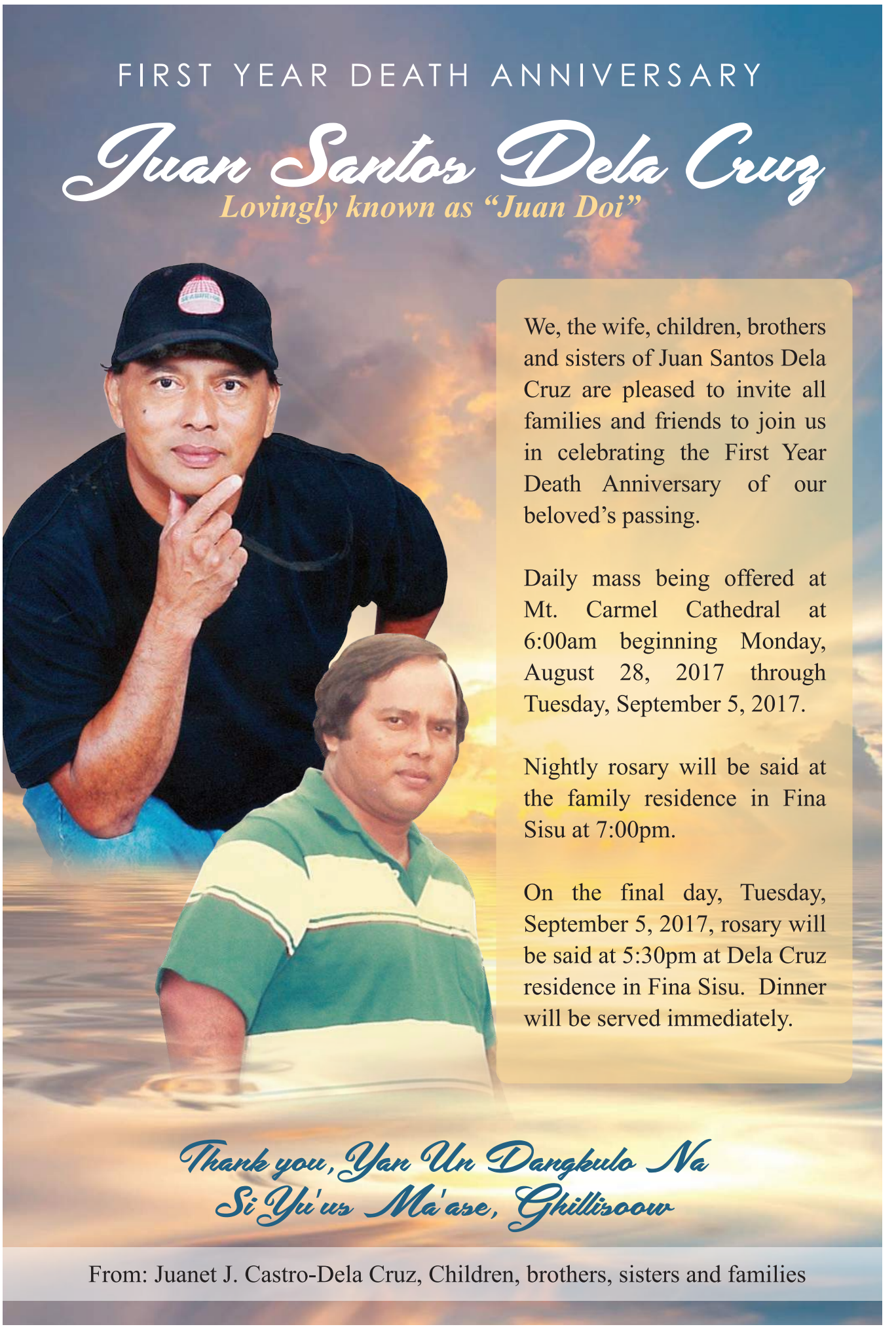
Jones sent his "sincere apologies" to U.S. fans planning to attend the shows. A statement on his website said the rescheduled tour would take place in May and June of next year and that tickets for the postponed shows would be honored.

Jones had been expected to begin a lengthy U.S. tour in Pennsylvania on Sept. 6. He has enjoyed a long career that began with "It's Not Unusual," ''What's New Pussycat" and other hits in the mid-and late 1960s.

He was for a time one of the world's most popular recording artists and after attracting a new generation of fans with 1999's "Sex Bomb," has never lost the ability to attract concertgoers.

Jones received a knighthood from Britain's Queen Elizabeth II in 2006 for services to music.

The surprise postponement of his tour dates prompted numerous concerned comments from fans who wished him well on Twitter. Jones' wife of 59 years, Linda, died last year of cancer.


FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY
Juan Santos Dela Cruz
Lovingly known as "Juan Doi"
We, the wife, children, brothers and sisters of Juan Santos Dela Cruz are pleased to invite all families and friends to join us in celebrating the First Year Death Anniversary of our beloved's passing.
Daily mass being offered at Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 6:00am beginning Monday, August 28, 2017 through Tuesday, September 5, 2017.
Nightly rosary will be said at the family residence in Fina Sisu at 7:00pm.
On the final day, Tuesday, September 5, 2017, rosary will be said at 5:30pm at Dela Cruz residence in Fina Sisu. Dinner will be served immediately.
Thank you, Yan Un Dangkulo Na
Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Ghillisoow
From: Juanet J. Castro-Dela Cruz, Children, brothers, sisters and families

This Aug. 30, 2017 photo shows Miss America, Savvy Shields, during a welcoming ceremony in Atlantic City N.J. for contestants hoping to succeed her. AP

OUTGOING MISS AMERICA:

We're more alike than different

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—Asked about Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton during her on-stage interview at last year's Miss America pageant, Savvy Shields turned heads on the judge's panel and across the country by offering some advice to both political parties: Stop arguing and start compromising.

It was that response that may have put her over the top to become Miss America 2017.

Now, with her reign to end in just about a week, the former Miss Arkansas says the nation is not as divided as it may seem.

"We're a lot more similar than we think we are," she told The Associated Press in one of her final interviews before her successor is crowned Sept. 10.

Shields says she's been in a different state every 48 hours for the past 12 months, logging thousands of airline miles and living out of suitcases as she crisscrosses the country, meeting people from all walks of life.

"I've seen world-changers and philanthropists and charities and ordinary people who are all seeking the same goal," she said, which is making a difference in whatever way they can. "It's been very encouraging to me to see that."

Riding to the airport for a flight that would bring her back to Atlantic City, Shields reflected on her year as Miss America.

"It's been nonstop," she said. "It's been a whirlwind."

One of the biggest surprises of being Miss America?

"I always thought coffee would hold things together and keep me caffeinated," she joked. "I didn't realize it wears off."

There were surprising moments like meeting Baby Savvy, a young girl in North Dakota whose parents named her after the new Miss America.

And there were emotional moments in her duties as national ambassador for the Children's Miracle Network of hospitals that included many visits with young patients.

"There were moments when you laugh more than you thought possible, and there were moments when you realize the reality of the situation, with kids whose futures are not guaranteed," she said.

Savvy (short for Savannah) does not remember much about her early days as Miss America, saying—as many of her predecessors have—that the days flew by in a blur. She has to scroll back through her social media accounts to remember much about the beginning of her reign.

Her advice to this year's contestants?

"Take a breath," she said. "It goes by incredibly fast. They made it this far, which they probably dreamed of all their lives. Now just enjoy it."

When the field was narrowed to a handful of contestants during the pageant finale as she stood onstage waiting for the winner to be announced, Shields recalled, "It's a very still moment. It feels like the longest five minutes of your life."

When she heard her name spoken, Shields said, "It sped up."

Shields has not yet decided which career path to pursue, saying she has many options and she's keeping them open.

Japan princess' engaged to college love; wedding scheduled next year

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese Emperor Akihito's oldest grandchild, Princess Mako, says she is getting married to her university classmate who won her heart with bright smiles and sincerity.

Mako and her fiance Kei Komuro told a joint news conference Sunday their relationship started when Mako sat behind him at a campus meeting five years ago at Tokyo's International Christian University, where they graduated from.

Palace officials say their wedding is expected next year.

Mako says she fell in love with his "smiles like the sun," sincerity and a big heart.

Mako's 83-year-old grandfather, Emperor Akihito, is expected to abdicate in late 2018. He'll be succeeded by his eldest son, Crown Prince Naruhito.

Mako does not qualify as women aren't allowed to succeed the throne. She'll lose her royal status after marrying the commoner.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Virginia Borja Mundo Lizama

Better known as " Bizing"

Born on April 6, 1966 was called home by our heavenly father at the age of 51 on August 28, 2017

She will be greatly missed by numerous aunties, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, godchildren, and wonderful friends.

Nightly masses are at 6:00pm on Mon, Wed, & Fri. 6:00 am on Tue, Thurs and Sat. At San Jose Church, Tinian.

Her remains will be taken from the THC Morgue to San Jose Church at 8:00 am September 5, 2017, Final Rosary/Responso.Mass for Christian Burial will be offered at 10:00am, interment will follow.

In her new life, she now joins her:

Father: †Gerarldo Salas Mundo

Maternal Grandparents: †Regino Quichocho Mundo †Rosa Salas Mundo

Paternal: †Guilermo Dela Cruz Borja †Maria Cabrera Borja

Parents in Law: †Jose San Nicolas Lizama †Maria Ada Lizama

Her memoriers will live in the hearts of her:

Mother: Lucia Borja Mundo
Husband: Dionicio Ada Lizama
Children: Joleen Evette Mundo Lizama & Byron Dela Cruz, Jeraleen Mundo Lizama & Dennis Pua, Donovan Mundo Lizama & Winona Maritita

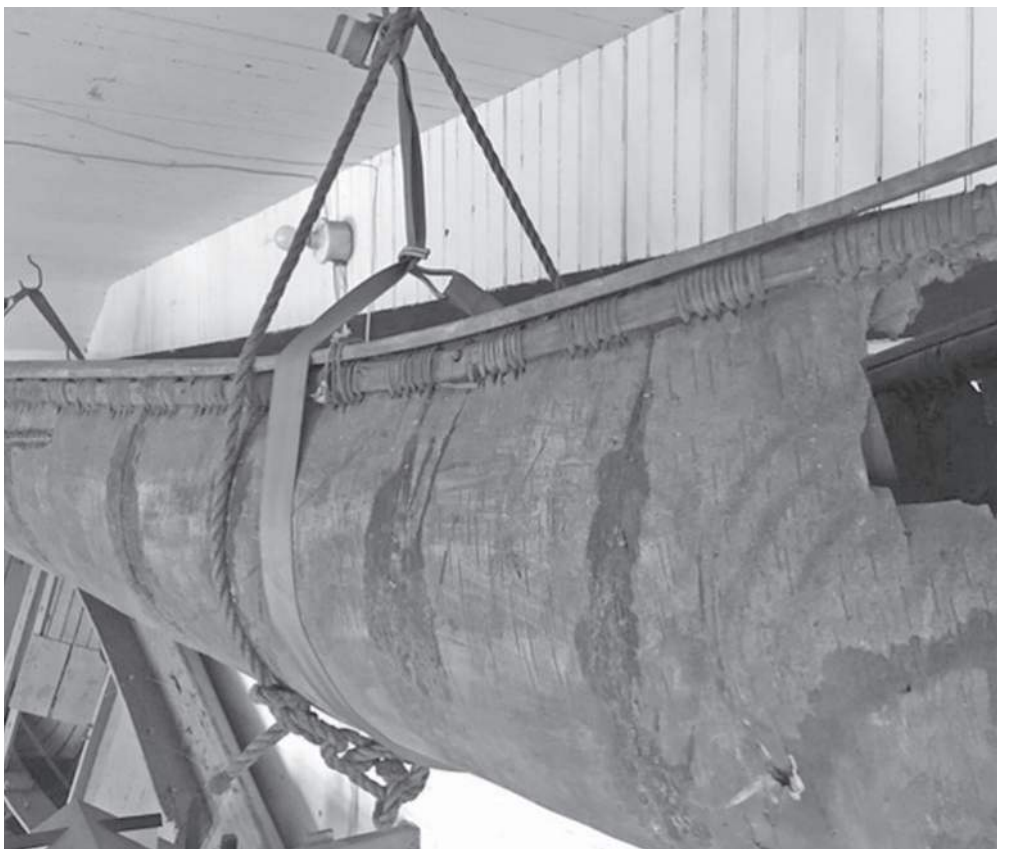
Grand Children: Byron Lizama Dela Cruz Jr, Bryan Lizama Dela Cruz, BJ Lizama Dela Cruz, Blane Lizama Dela Cruz, Tania Jeriana Lizama Dela Cruz,

Godparents: Victoria Reyes, †David Maritita & Lucy Blanco Maritita,

Brothers/Sisters & Spouses : †Ermelinda Borja King & Juanis M. King, Elisa Borja Mundo & Anthony P. Aquiningoc, Franklin Borja Mundo & Barbara L. Mundo, Luis Borja Mundo & Concepcion M. Mundo, †Henry Borja Mundo & Gina V. Mundo, Ruth Mundo Ada & Pedro T. Ada and Children; †Ana T. Ada, †Maritin T. Ada, Pedro T. Ada, Jose A Lizama Jr, Lucia L. Montealegre, Asunta L. Palacios, Luis A. Lizama, Joaquin A. Lizama, Benjamin A. Lizama, Barbara L. Mundo, Rita L. Chargualaf, Leonina L. Castro, †Pricillla L. Deleon Guerrero and family

Maine museum preserves Native American canoe from 1700s

BRUNSWICK, Maine (AP)—One of the oldest-known Native American birch-bark canoes will go on display at a Maine historical society museum, possibly as early as this fall, after spending three decades in a barn.



AP
In a 2017 photo, a Wabanaki-made birch canoe that was carbon-dated to the 1700s is seen hanging in a barn behind the Pejepscot Historical Society museum in Brunswick, Maine.

Carbon dating by the Pejepscot Historical Society in Brunswick shows the Wabanaki canoe was likely made sometime between 1729 and 1789. Museum records date the canoe to the mid-1700s.

The Wabanaki Confederacy is a group of Native American nations who lived primarily in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts and parts of Atlantic Canada.

Larissa Vigue Picard, the historical society's executive director, says the Wabanaki artifact is "priceless" and could be the oldest birch-bark canoe in existence.

Native Americans have been making these canoes for 3,000 years. But only a few of the earliest ones still exist because birch bark is so fragile, says Laurie LaBar, chief curator of history and decorative arts at the Maine State Museum in Augusta.

The Pejepscot Historical Society came in possession of the 16-foot-long canoe in 1889. Museum officials say it was donated to the organization after being passed down through generations in the family of William Barnes, a sea captain from Harpswell, who received the canoe as a gift from a tribe.

It's spent the last three decades in a barn behind the museum, exposed to extreme temperatures and humidity, but is in relatively good shape.

Built by standards of the 1700s, it was held together with wooden pegs instead of nails or other modern fasteners brought to America by Europeans, according to the historical society's Stephanie Ruddock.

The canoes were popular with early explorers because they were much lighter than dugout canoes made from tree trunks, and could be carried.

A craftsman in Wellington will restore the 18th century vessel before it goes on display, situated in a specially crafted cradle.

Italy displays marble Roman head stolen in World War II

ROME (AP) — Italy is putting on display a 1st century marble head that an American museum returned after learning it was stolen during World War II from a southern Italian museum.

The Cleveland Museum of Art in Ohio acquired the sculpture depicting Roman Emperor Tiberius' son Drusus in 2012.

Major Massimo Maresca of Italy's national paramilitary police art squad said Friday the original working assumption had been that the piece had been stolen by Nazi troops and taken to Germany, the fate of many artifacts and artworks from countries occupied by Nazi Germany.

But "we were looking in the wrong place," said Maresca, of the Carabinieri art squad, which has an excellent record of tracking down ancient artifacts illegally exported from Italy.

Instead, Maresca said, research determined that the piece, portraying Drusus, a general, with an aristocratic air, had been looted by Algerian soldiers from the museum in the southern town of Sessa Aurunca, near Caserta, in 1943, a chaotic time as Allied troops pressed their movement up the peninsula in the campaign against Nazi troops.

A second marble head, of the emperor himself, was similarly stolen and later recovered in a separate operation.

Maresca told The Associated Press in an interview that the Drusus sculpture was believed to have been first taken to Algeria, eventually moved to France, and in 2004, auctioned off in Paris.

After realizing it wasn't the Nazis who had made off with the statue, the police art squad discovered that "the heads had been stolen by allied French troops, specifically by Algerian troops stationed in Italy, who, at the moment of their departure following the (Allied) liberation of Southern Italy, carted away with them the two heads" along with other artifacts, Maresca said.

Eventually, the heads were sold, via France, to the U.S. antiquities markets, with the emperor's head acquired by a private citizen and the Drusus piece by the museum, the police official said.

When the transfer of the Drusus piece to Italy was agreed upon earlier this year, the museum said "extensive research" had indicated the sculpture originally came from North Africa.

The public can admire the sculpture every Saturday in September at the Rome headquarters of the Carabinieri art squad.

Maresca said that in line with similar agreements with other foreign museums which have returned to Italy pieces that turned out to be illegally exported, the Cleveland institution would be allowed a loan of several years of some similarly valuable ancient sculpture for display.

Madonna's headed overseas—to a new home in Portugal

NEW YORK (AP)—Madonna is heading overseas to a new home in Portugal.

The Michigan native had been living in New York. She said on Instagram Saturday that she finds the energy of Portugal inspiring, and it makes her feel creative and alive.

A spokesman for the singer said she fell in love with the country after ending a tour there in 2004. Madonna posted that she'll be working on a film and new music in Portugal.

She said in her Instagram post: "It's time to conquer the world from a different vantage point."

James Harden giving $1 million for Harvey relief

HOUSTON (AP)—Houston Rockets point guard James Harden says he will donate $1 million to the city of Houston to aid in Harvey recovery.

Harden made the announcement Saturday with Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner. They spoke at a news conference at the NRG Center, which has housed evacuees since Harvey swamped the Houston area more than a week ago.

Harden went to high school in California and college in Arizona but said Houston is his home. He posed for photos with fans and said the money would go people who need it.

Oscar winners Sandra Bullock and Leonardo DiCaprio also have pledged $1 million to charities helping with Harvey relief.

President Donald Trump also pledged a $1 million donation, but it's unclear who will get the money. The donation is expected to come from his personal fortune.

Trump also visited evacuees Saturday in Houston.

In-laws won't attend party unless they get to host it

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married for 26 years. We have a daughter, 25, who recently graduated from college. We will have a small gathering of close friends and family to celebrate.

During our entire marriage, anytime we invited my in-laws to birthday parties or other special occasions, they never accepted unless we agreed for the event to take place in one of their homes. I feel at this point they no longer deserve more invites. Although they were invited to attend the graduation, of course they refused.

My husband feels we should invite them, even though he knows they won't come. I feel they don't deserve any more invitations, but my husband refuses to agree. I have never been unpleasant to them or spoken about how I have felt about their snubs. My daughter has also reached the point of not caring if they are included because she feels the same way I do. Am I wrong for feeling this way?

SNUBBED IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR SNUBBED: Not knowing why your in-laws are reluctant to celebrate milestones with you outside their homes, I can't guess their reason. However, you are entitled to your feelings, and from my perspective, you should have asked them the rationale for their reluctance years ago.

That said, I do not think this is the time to punish them, particularly because your husband feels so strongly about it. They are his family. Send them the invitation and you'll be beyond reproach. Who knows? They may surprise you and attend. However, if they don't, it will be on their heads and not yours.

DEAR ABBY: I'm turning 30, and I have had many relationships. Some of them lasted more than a year, but many have been short-lived. I have been engaged once and proposed to three times. It's a joke among my friends that I'm a serial dater, but I don't feel it's worth my time to sit around and be depressed about something that's not working out.

I have been seeing someone now for the last four months, and I can honestly say I have never felt this way before. We complement one another in so many ways and have much to learn from each other as well. I'm as in love with him as he is with me.

My issue is, nobody around me takes it seriously because I have had so many relationships and "loved" so many times. I try to tell them this is different, but they brush him off as just another guy who will be gone with the wind someday.

I don't want to take it personally, and I'm not usually the type to care about what others think, but it irks me because I am so passionate about this man. Should I try harder to make them understand, or just enjoy the love that I'm in?

LOVER IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR LOVER: Just be happy. Sometimes the harder we try to sell something, the more resistant the buyer becomes. You do not have to convince anyone that this is the real thing. As the relationship develops, those around you will see it for themselves.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

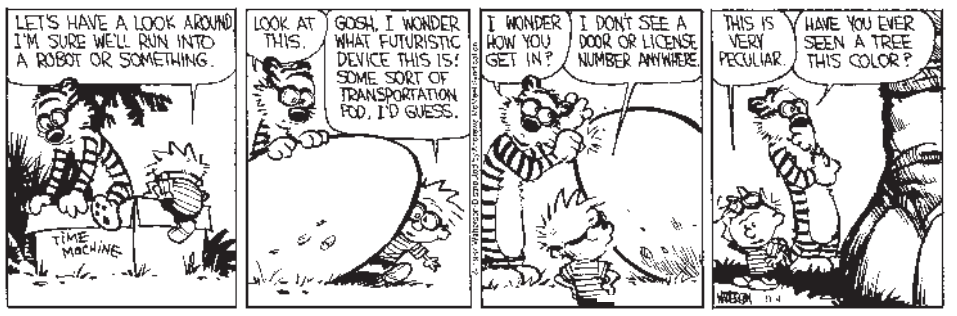
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


LET'S HAVE A LOOK AROUND I'M SURE WE'LL RUN INTO A ROBOT OR SOMETHING.
TIME MACHINE
LOOK AT THIS.
GOSH, I WONDER WHAT FUTURISTIC DEVICE THIS IS! SOME SORT OF TRANSPORTATION POD, I'D GUESS.
I WONDER HOW YOU GET IN?
I DON'T SEE A DOOR OR LICENSE NUMBER ANYWHERE.
THIS IS VERY PECULIAR.
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A TREE THIS COLOR?

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

ANY TAKERS ON THE COFFEE COMPANY ENDORSEMENTS?
NO.
THEY ALL SENT ME CEASE-AND-DESIST LETTERS.
SO I'M GOING TO WHINE AND GRUMBLE FOR A WHILE.
UM... OKAY.
WHINE... GRUMBLE...
WILL A CEASE-AND-DESIST POST-IT NOTE WORK FOR THIS?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

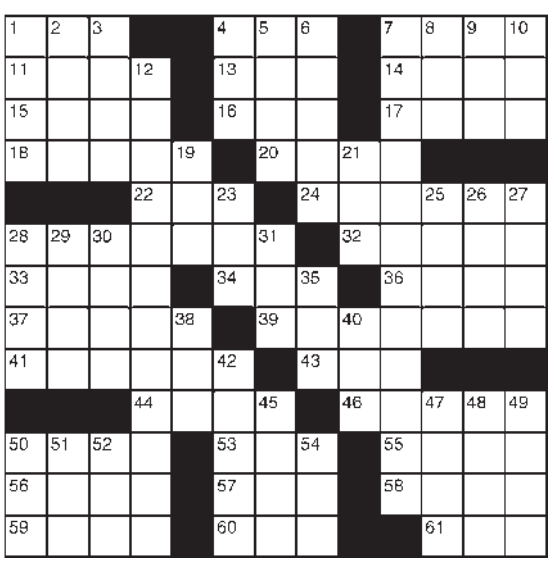
ACROSS
1 Jungfrau, for one
4 Bread spread
7 Sound from a beehive
11 Hairdo
13 "Caught ya!"
14 Europe's neighbor
15 Mexican entree
16 Existed
17 "Li'l Abner" creator
18 Brainy
20 Hit on the noggin
22 Stir-fry pan
24 Pretty good
28 Like some farm-fresh produce
32 Italian wine
33 Ante-lope's play-mate
34 Unruly group
36 Winter blanket
37 Apple tablets
39 Pisa's region
41 Standard
43 "Hum-bug!"
44 Vacation-ing
46 Cook eggs in water
50 It grows on you
53 However
55 Singer Anita
56 Outlet letters
57 Flamenco cheer
58 Reindeer herder
59 Netting
60 Actor Harrison
61 Cattle call

DOWN
1 Play parts
2 Rich soil
3 Elite alterna-tive
4 Mandible
5 Melville captain
6 Brick worker
7 Like some August sales
8 Dos Passos trilogy
9 Energy
10 Use a taser
12 Drill in-structor's order
19 Heavy weight
21 Refusals
23 Kipling lad
25 Eric of "Troy"
26 Bard's river
27 Moist in the morn
28 Valhalla VIP
29 Seized vehicle
30 Equip-ment
31 Guest's bed
35 Fella
38 Wit-nessed
40 Enervate
42 Hard work
45 Christ-mas
47 Eden evictee
48 Mafia boss
49 Syringe, for short
50 Deli meat
51 High card
52 Egos' counter-parts
54 Singer Ritter

Solution time: 26 mins.

	M	S	C	T		O	B	I		L	L	O
Q	A	T	A	R		K	I	N		L	A	D
S	A	B	R	A		S	¯	C	L	O	U	D
		A	L	P	H	A	S		O	R	E	L
N	P	R		S	A	N		S	C	A	R	Y
R	O	T	C		R	A	S	T	A			
A	L	S	A	C	E		¯	U	L	S	A	N
			R	U	S	S	O		E	T	N	A
S	L	I	D	E		L	I	P		K	O	P
A	U	D	I		N	U	C	I	F	I		
S	I	L	O	U	I	S		E	A	I	A	I
I	E	E		N	T	I		A	S	T	O	R
A	S	S		D	E	Y		T	E	S	L	A

Last Friday's Answer 9-04



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Whitney Cummings, 35; Beyonce Knowles, 36; Wes Bentley, 39; Drew Pinsky, 59.

Happy Birthday: Consider every angle and be selective about who you partner with. Your choices will make a difference to the outcome of any goal you pursue. Be realistic and honest regarding your motives and stand by your promises. Having confidence as well as the resources to follow through and make things happen will set you up for success. Your numbers are 4, 11, 19, 23, 26, 38, 43.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Use your connections and network with people who can help raise your profile. Personal changes will be viewed as progressive. Professional partnerships look welcoming, and new job prospects are within your reach. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Finish what you start regardless of any meddling you encounter. Children, needy friends or people who want something for nothing will hold you back. Offer suggestions and get back to the pursuits that will help you get ahead. ✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Make the changes that will improve your relationships with the people you live or work with. A shift in the way you go about your business or handle your personal affairs will bring you greater security. Put new ideas into play. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Use your imagination and you will come up with new ways to use your skills. Home improvements should be considered, but only spend what you can afford or you'll face opposition. A visit from an old friend will bring back memories. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Money matters must not be based on emotional whims. You may desire change, but living within your means will be the prerequisite to your happiness and peace of mind. Look inward and focus on personal growth. Romance is featured. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Take a unique approach to whatever you do and you will attract helpers. Your willingness to do the grunt work will make a good impression. Deal with the red tape and it will give you a clear passage to pursue your goals. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Do whatever you can to help others. Your generosity will inspire your peers to follow suit. A change to the way you earn or handle your money will lead to greater cash flow. Invest in emotional and intellectual growth. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Tread carefully when dealing with personal and professional matters. Biding your time and backing away from those offering extravagant options will save you money and emotional stress. Trust in yourself. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Make each day an adventure. Learn something new or visit a destination you've never been to before. Sharing your life stories with people you encounter along the way will spark a desire to alter the way you live. Love is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Dealing with banks, lawyers or government agencies will be the result of an unexpected change in your personal finances, domestic situation or a partnership. Be prepared to be reasonable and factual with your response. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Address partnership issues. Express your feelings and what you would like to see happen. Positive changes can be made if you adjust your lifestyle to fit your needs. Expanding your family or moving to larger quarters is featured. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Dealing with authority figures, government agencies and banks will be difficult if you haven't got all your personal documentation in order. Take a moment to go over all the necessary paperwork. Preparation will save the day. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are observant, adaptable and open-minded. You are productive and unbiased.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

1	9	5						6
				5				4
			6	9	3			5
		2	1		5	4		
	6	8		7		5	1	
		1	9		8	6		
5			7	8	9			
3				1				
8						9	6	2

Difficulty Level ★ 9/04

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

4	9	2	3	5	1	6	8	7
7	1	6	9	8	4	3	5	2
3	8	5	2	6	7	4	1	9
9	2	1	7	3	5	8	6	4
6	5	7	4	9	8	1	2	3
8	4	3	6	1	2	7	9	5
1	7	9	5	4	6	2	3	8
5	6	4	8	2	3	9	7	1
2	3	8	1	7	9	5	4	6

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

SPIDUCCI Solution: 7 letters

E	Y	N	E	K	C	I	H	C	B	R	E	A	D	G
U	R	R	O	C	O	A	L	M	O	I	S	T	D	U
C	A	U	E	T	F	L	A	V	O	R	S	S	E	E
E	M	T	T	D	T	L	T	Ⓞ	Ⓘ	Ⓛ	E	E	T	S
B	E	A	T	A	N	U	E	S	K	C	I	T	S	T
R	S	S	L	R	R	E	M	S	E	R	V	E	A	S
A	O	T	A	E	C	E	T	I	E	N	I	V	O	N
B	R	Y	S	H	E	E	P	A	R	T	Y	U	R	E
S	E	B	U	C	O	O	K	M	A	T	T	D	N	Z
S	E	N	K	T	P	D	U	E	E	D	L	O	E	O
Y	K	R	U	U	E	I	M	T	O	T	L	O	D	D
S	O	E	I	B	P	P	C	O	I	S	I	F	O	H
P	C	J	W	F	P	P	R	N	C	N	R	L	O	O
L	E	A	N	E	E	E	Y	U	I	S	G	I	W	T
S	U	M	M	E	R	D	T	A	O	C	A	P	N	Y

© 2017 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 9/4

Barbecue, Bread, Butcher, Chicken, Chunks, Coal, Coat, Cook, Cubes, Cut, Dipped, Dozens, Enjoy, Fire, Flavors, Flip, Food, Grill, Guests, Hot, Lamb, Lean, Meat, Metal, Moist, Mutton, Oil, Outdoor, Outing, Ovine, Party, Pepper, Picnic, Pieces, Pork, Roasted, Rosemary, Salt, Serve, Sheep, Skewer, Steel, Sticks, Summer, Tasty, Temperature, Tender, Tiny, Twigs, Wooden

Last Friday's Answer: New Mexico

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

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Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

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Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
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Email: tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Meeting on Tuesday, September 05, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. at the Northern Marianas College, Tinian campus, building B (room E) in San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS[1]

III. NEW BUSINESS
1. Applicant Review

IV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTER

V. SCHEDULE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION[2]

VII. ADJOURNMENT

/S/Antonio L. Borja
Chairman[1]

[1] We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.
[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

MVA IS HIRING!!!!

Opening Date: 08/11/17 **Closing Date: 9/11/17**

JVA#17-011: **Marketing Specialist I**
JVA#17-012: **Accountant II**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

Interested persons may contact the
Marianas Visitors Authority Office at (670) 664-3200/01
or visit www.mymarianas.com for more details.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP-17-CHCC/WIC-25

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: September 19, 2017 **TIME: 10:00AM**

"REPAINTING PROJECT, WOMEN, INFANTS, &CHILDREN (WIC), COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

MANDATORY PRE-SUBMISSION ON-SITE ASSESSMENT
A MANDATORY ON-SITE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT AREA WILL BE HELD AT 9:00A.M., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017. ALL INTERESTED VENDORS MUST ATTEND.

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9770 Facsimile (670)236-9797

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-11
SUBMISSION DATE: September 5th, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"MOVABLE FILING CABINETS (FIXED TRACK) FOR THE CNMI OFFICE OF ADULT PROBATION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS JUDICIARY

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NOs.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-08
ITB17-JUDICIARY-09

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2017, 10:00 A.M.

ITB17-JUDICIARY-08: "PURCHASE OF A NEW 2016-2017 VEHICLE (5 Door All Wheel Drive Utility Vehicle) WITH SHIPPING TO TINIAN

ITB17-JUDICIARY-09: "PURCHASE OF A NEW 2016-2017 VEHICLE (5 Door All Wheel Drive Utility Vehicle) WITH SHIPPING TO ROTA

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9770 Facsimile (670)236-9797

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-12
SUBMISSION DATE: September 5th, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH SERVICES FOR THE CNMI JUDICIARY"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9770 Facsimile (670)236-9797

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-13
SUBMISSION DATE: September 5th, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"THREE (3) DEHUMIDIFIERS (DUCTED) FOR THE CNMI JUDICIARY, GUMA HUSTISIA"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
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JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

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is responsible for a diverse range of activities to regulate and enhance the daily operations of our organization located in Saipan. These includes –

Job Description
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- Managing project files, design and maintain project filing systems
- Managing quality, record tracking, document control, process compliance
- Maintain office equipment
- Must be computer proficient
- Light accounting experience a plus
- Assisting our Contracts Administrator with various tasks
- Assisting our Customer Support Care Specialist with various Tasks

Qualifications
- Must be a US Citizen or Green Card Holder
- Must have a valid Driver's License
- Must have own car
- Must be highly organized and process-oriented
- Customer Service/Receptionist experience required
- Must be able to provide Police and Court Clearances

We are looking for a detailed orientated individual with a great work ethic to become a part of our growing team in our Saipan Office. Hours are 8 AM to 5 PM Monday thru Friday. This is a great opportunity with a growing company with upside and growth potential.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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Find today's solution in classified section

Astros sweep Mets in doubleheader

HOUSTON (AP)—George Springer had three hits and the Houston Astros beat the New York Mets 4-1 on Saturday night to sweep a day-night doubleheader in their first games at home since the city was devastated by Hurricane Harvey.

The Astros won the first game 12-8 behind Springer's career-high 30th home run.

In the nightcap, Josh Reddick tied it at 1 with an RBI single off Seth Lugo (5-4) with no outs in the sixth before Jose Altuve avoided Kevin Plawecki's tag at home to score on a single by Marwin Gonzalez.

Joe Musgrove (7-8) pitched 2 1/3 scoreless innings for the win, and Ken Giles pitched a perfect ninth for his 28th save.

Mets third baseman Wilmer Flores fouled a ball off his face in the fourth inning, was taken off the field with his nose bleeding heavily and sent to a hospital for X-rays.

A crowd of 30,319 attended the doubleheader opener, and 34,904 came out for the second game.

In the opener, New York's Matt Harvey (4-4) was pounded for seven runs and eight hits in a career-low two innings. Harvey had not pitched for the Mets since June 14 because of a stress injury to the scapula bone in his right shoulder.

Houston right-hander Charlie Morton (11-6) struck out nine in five innings, giving up two runs and six hits.

AP
Houston Astros center fielder George Springer misses the fly ball by New York Mets' Dominic Smith during the sixth inning of the second game of a baseball doubleheader, Saturday, Sept. 2, 2017, in Houston. Juan Lagares scored on the play. AP

Indians 5, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Corey Kluber pitched eight strong innings and Cleveland won its 10th straight game.

The Indians are on their longest winning streak since taking a franchise-record 14 in a row between June 17 and July 1, 2016. They have outscored Detroit 18-4 in the first three games of the series.

Kluber (14-4) gave up one run and eight hits. Cody Allen allowed an RBI single to Jose Iglesias before retiring Ian Kinsler for his 23rd save.

Diamondbacks 6, Rockies 2

In Denver, Patrick Corbin pitched effectively into the sixth inning, J.D. Martinez hit a three-run home run and Arizona won its season-high ninth straight.

The Diamondbacks pushed their lead over Colorado for the top NL wild-card berth to 5 1/2 games. The Rockies, losers of three straight and four of their last five, clung to a 1 1/2 game lead over Milwaukee, which lost to Washington earlier, for the second wild card.

Mariners 7, Athletics 6

In Seattle, Jean Segura raced home from third base on a wild pitch with two outs in the ninth inning, and Seattle rallied from four runs down to beat Oakland.

The Mariners pulled even at 6-all when Mike Zunino hit a two-out solo home run to right-center field in the eighth inning off Athletics reliever Chris Hatcher. Zunino drove an 0-1 pitch to the gap and watched it barely disappear over the wall for his 21st homer of the season.

Padres 6, Dodgers 5, 1st Game
Padres 7, Dodgers 2, 2nd Game

In San Diego, Carlos Asuaje homered and Erick Aybar had three singles off Yu Darvish, who failed to get an out in the fourth inning as San Diego beat Los Angeles 7-2 in the night game to complete a sweep of a doubleheader against the runaway NL West leaders.

It was the shortest outing of the year for Darvish (2-2), who allowed five runs and eight hits, struck out five and walked three.

In the first game, Yangervis Solarte homered with one out in the ninth to lift the Padres to a 6-5 victory.

Twins 17, Royals 0

In Minneapolis, Joe Mauer went 4 for 4 for Minnesota, and Eduardo Escobar hit two home runs while driving in six runs.

Brian Dozier added a three-run homer and Byron Buxton went 3 for 5 with three runs, making Kyle Gibson (9-10) as comfortable as possible over six scoreless innings to help the Twins improve to 21-10 since Aug. 2.

Yankees 5, Red Sox 1

In New York, Matt Holliday made a smashing return to the Yankees' lineup, hitting a three-run homer that helped Masahiro Tanaka to another win.

The Yankees, already holding the top spot in the wild-card race, pulled within 4 1/2 games of the AL East-leading Red Sox. The rivals close their season series Sunday night.

White Sox 5, Rays 4

In Chicago, Tampa Bay's Chris Archer gave up home runs to the first two batters of the game then departed right lateral forearm tightness.

Alen Hanson hit his fourth home run on Archer's second pitch of the game, and Yolmer Sanchez followed with his ninth homer to help the White Sox snap a four-game losing streak.

Archer (9-8) threw just eight pitches before Rays manager Kevin Cash and trainer Ron Porterfield checked on him and he left as a precaution.

Cubs 14, Braves 12

In Chicago, Rene Rivera hit a grand slam, Anthony Rizzo added a three-run triple and the Cubs held off the Braves in Jon Lester's return from the disabled list.

Javier Baez and Jason Heyward also homered for the NL Central-leading Cubs, who have won six straight and 12 of 15 overall.

Lester (9-7) allowed four runs and eight hits in five innings in his first start since Aug. 16. He had been sidelined by tightness in his left lat and general shoulder fatigue.

Nationals 3, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Trea Turner's double to the center-field wall scored Wilmer Difo from first base in the eighth inning, and Washington rallied for the road win.

The Nationals trailed 2-1 before Michael Taylor homered on the first pitch from rookie reliever Josh Hader (1-2). Difo bunted Hader's second pitch for a single and scored on Turner's double.

Washington ace Max Scherzer was hit in the left calf by a liner in the first and was lifted after throwing 75 pitches over five innings, but the 2016 NL Cy Young Award winner said he didn't anticipate missing much time with the injury.

Marlins 10, Phillies 9

In Miami, Giancarlo Stanton hit his major league-leading 52nd home run, and Miami snapped a five-game losing streak.

Marcell Ozuna also connected and drove in four runs for the Marlins, and pinch hitter Derek Dietrich belted a three-run shot. Dan Straily (9-8) got the win.

Stanton's estimated 445-foot drive against Aaron Nola (10-10) in the first bounced off the wall in front of the walkway above center field. The homer snapped a 1-for-17 slump for the All-Star slugger.

Angels 7, Rangers 4, 10 innings

In Arlington, Kole Calhoun hit a tiebreaking two-run single in the 10th inning, and the Angels rallied for the win.

Los Angeles remained 1 1/2 games behind Minnesota in the race for the AL's second wild card. Texas fell four games back of the Twins.

Jose Leclerc (2-3) walked the first three batters in the 10th. Two scored when Calhoun looped his single into left field, and the third came in on a sacrifice fly by C.J. Cron.

Blue Jays 7, Orioles 2

In Baltimore, Josh Donaldson hit a three-run homer and Toronto deftly recovered from a second-inning injury to starting pitcher Marcus Stroman.

Kevin Pillar and Darwin Barney also homered for the last-place Blue Jays. Matt Dermody (2-0) pitched 2 1/3 scoreless innings for the win.

Seth Smith connected for the Orioles, who fell 3 1/2 games behind the New York Yankees for the top AL wild-card slot. Wade Miley (8-11) pitched six innings of two-run ball.

Giants 2, Cardinals 1, 10 innings

In San Francisco, Nick Hundley hit a game-ending homer in the 10th inning for San Francisco.

Hundley led off with an opposite-field drive to right on a 1-0 slider from Ryan Sherriff (0-1).

The Cardinals failed to score in the top of the 10th after Dexter Fowler led off with a triple against Sam Dyson (2-2). Third baseman Pablo Sandoval cut down pinch runner Harrison Bader at the plate on Stephen Piscotty's one-out grounder.

Lance Lynn pitched eight shutout innings of one-hit ball for St. Louis. San Francisco right-hander Jeff Samardzija struck out nine and gave up one run in seven innings in his second straight strong start.

Pirates 5, Reds 0

In Pittsburgh, Jordan Luplow picked up the first two hits of his career, including a three-run homer for Pittsburgh in the eighth inning.

Luplow beat out an infield single in the second for his first hit. His second went considerably farther, reaching the first row of seats in left-center field.

Starling Marte added three hits for Pittsburgh, which ended a four-game losing streak. A.J. Schugel (4-0) picked up the victory in relief.

Billy Hamilton had two hits for Cincinnati and stole two bases to boost his total to a major league-leading 58. Michael Lorenzen (8-3) got the loss.

Federer looks back at best in straight-set win at US Open

NEW YORK (AP)—This was Roger Federer at his hard-to-beat best, a performance so unlike the pair of uncomfortable five-setters he laboured through to begin the U.S. Open.

Federer's back looked just fine, his movement precise, his strokes absolutely on-point. It all added up to a straightforward 6-3, 6-3, 7-5 victory over 31st- seeded Feliciano Lopez in the third round at Flushing Meadows that lasted all of 106 minutes under the roof in Arthur Ashe Stadium on a rainy Saturday night.

The most telling statistic was that the No. 3-seeded Federer was guilty of 16 unforced errors, which is not merely a remarkably low total on its own merits but also significant when viewed through the prism provided by his matches earlier in the week. He averaged 62 errors in each of those outings, against 19-year-old American Frances Tiafoe and 35-year-old Russian Mikhail Youzhny.

AP

Roger Federer of Switzerland serves to Feliciano Lopez of Spain during the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Saturday, Sept. 2, 2017.

That was the first time in Federer's career that he opened a Grand Slam tournament with two consecutive matches that lasted five sets. More relevant numbers: Federer was broken eight times total in those matches, but only once against Lopez.

Federer improved to 13-0 against Lopez and 33-1 in night matches at Flushing Meadows, so perhaps the lopsided nature of this shouldn't be all that surprising. Still, Federer had acknowledged after edging a cramping Youzhny that a lack of proper practice and preparation leading up to the U.S. Open on account of tweaking his back in August meant that his timing was off. Consider Federer back on track.

Next comes a match against 33rd-seeded Philipp Kohlschreiber, who beat John Millman 7-5, 6-2, 6-4. Federer's head-to-head record against Kohlschreiber is 11-0.

Looming further down the road is a possible semifinal matchup against No. 1 Rafael Nadal, Federer's long-time rival. They have never met at the U.S. Open. Nadal won earlier Saturday, although for the second match in a row, he needed to shake off a poor opening set that he dropped. Nadal advanced, though, once again figuring things out in the second set and strolling the rest of the way to defeat Leonardo Mayer of Argentina 6-7 (3), 6-3, 6-1, 6-4 and get to the fourth round.

The aspect that caused Nadal the most consternation was his difficulty converting break points, going 6 for 25.

"I overcame a tough situation today. That's very positive for me. I am very happy about this," Nadal said. "I know I cannot play very well always, and not the whole match."

Now Nadal meets 64th-ranked Alexandr Dolgopolov. Dolgopolov reached the fourth round at Flushing Meadows for the first time since 2011 with a 6-1, 6-0, 6-4 win against Viktor Troicki, then said he has been interviewed by the Tennis Integrity Unit.

That group is looking into a match he played against Thiago Monteiro at a hard-court event in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, on Aug. 20.

Dolgopolov said he approached the TIU.

"I was the first one to come there and try to give them all the information, so they can investigate it faster," he said.

Also still in the top half of the men's bracket are No. 6 Dominic Thiem, No. 9 David Goffin and No. 24 Juan Martin del Potro, the 2009 U.S. Open champion.

Madison Keys took eight of the last nine games and came back to beat Elena Vesnina 2-6, 6-4, 6-1, reaching fourth round for the third consecutive year.

The match ended at 1:45 a.m. on Sunday, the second-latest finish for women at Flushing Meadows. The record of 1:48 a.m. was set in a match won by Keys against Alison Riske in the first round a year ago.

The 15th-seeded Keys, an American, and the 17th-seeded Vesnina, a Russian, did not even start their third-round match until nearly midnight because of a lengthy day session that ran into the evening.

From 4-all in the second set, Keys didn't lose another game until she was ahead 5-0 in the third.

Kyrie Irving: Trade plea was about his potential, not James

BOSTON (AP)—Kyrie Irving didn't try to hide his giddiness Friday when he was introduced as the newest addition of a Boston Celtics franchise he grew up watching.

"It's about to be crazy, G," Irving said in the ear of fellow new Celtics teammate Gordon Hayward as they sat on the dais two days after Boston's blockbuster trade with the Cavaliers was completed.

Boston sent Isaiah Thomas, Jae Crowder, Ante Zizic and two draft picks to Cleveland for Irving. Hayward signed as a free agent in July.

Hayward and Irving smiled and bantered like old friends as they posed for pictures holding their new Celtics jerseys.

But not lost on Irving is that he's joining one of the league's most-storied teams because of his trade request from the team that drafted him and made him an NBA champion.

Irving acknowledged he wanted to leave the Cavaliers and his partnership the past three seasons with LeBron James. But he said the decision was about maximizing his own potential and not because of any specific issue with the Cavs or any individual.

Irving said he hasn't spoken to James since the trade, but is grateful for the time he spent alongside a player he called one of the game's greats.

Being in Boston, Irving said, allows him to "be with a group of individuals that I can grow with."

"That is not a knock on anything that has transpired in my six years because it was an unbelievable experience," he said.

Irving described going through an adjustment period in Cleveland and taking him awhile to reconcile his experiences on the court with how he was evolving off of it.

"Of learning the hard way," Irving said. "But we're all human beings and I think we've all been through a few hard times to where it changes the landscape of what you think and what you feel. It was my time to do what was best for me in terms of my intentions. And that's going after something bigger than myself."

Hayward said getting a chance to reunite with Brad Stevens, who was his college coach at Butler, played a big part in his decision to choose the Celtics in free agency.

US World Cup hopes in jeopardy after 2-0 loss to Costa Rica

HARRISON, N.J. (AP)—With another stunning home loss, the United States' hopes of reaching an eighth straight World Cup berth in peril.

Marco Urena took advantage of defensive mistakes to score in the 30th and 82nd minutes, giving Costa Rica a 2-0 win on Friday night that brought the Americans' resurgence under coach Bruce Arena to a crashing thud.

"There's no time to feel sorry for ourselves, and we're not," U.S. captain Michael Bradley said. "We've got three games to play like our lives depend on it, and we will."

Urena spun around defender Tim Ream, then caught Tim Howard leaning and beat the goalkeeper to the far post for the opening goal. The lone forward in a 5-4-1 formation, Urena doubled the lead with a shot from 18 yards after David Guzman intercepted a poor pass by Geoff Cameron.

"On the night, we didn't make any plays that mattered. We were probably outplayed in most positions on the field and made some critical errors," Arena said. "They outplayed us and outcoached us tonight."

Mexico and Costa Rica lead the final round of the North and Central American and Caribbean region with 14 points each and are close to qualifying.

"It's not complete yet but this is a very important step," Costa Rica coach Oscar Ramirez said through a translator.

The U.S. and Honduras have eight apiece, Panama had seven going into its match at Mexico later Friday, and Trinidad and Tobago was last with three.

"It's going to be a battle amongst the remaining four teams," Arena said.

The top three nations qualify for next year's tournament in Russia, and the fourth-place team advance to a playoff against Asia's No. 4 finisher.

"It puts more pressure on us," Howard said, "but we're still right in the thick of it."

The Americans have lost two home games in a World Cup cycle for the first time since 1957 and likely will need points on the road to qualify. They play at Honduras on Tuesday and close the hexagonal next month at home against Panama and at Trinidad and Tobago. American forward Jozy Altidore is suspended for Tuesday's game after an 80th minute yellow card for pushing Johan Venegas.

The U.S. opened the final round with a 2-1 home loss to Mexico and a 4-0 rout at Costa Rica, causing the USSF to fire coach Jurgen Klinsmann and bring back Arena, the Americans' coach from 1998-2006. The U.S. had been 9-0-5 under Arena, winning home qualifiers against Honduras and Trinidad and gaining draws at Panama and Mexico.

Christian Pulisic, the Americans' emerging 18-year-old star, had the best U.S. scoring chance in the 67th minute but was denied by goalkeeper Keylor Navas, who batted the ball with his right hand off his right foot, and it was cleared to safety. Navas then made a sliding stop on Altidore just before Urena's second goal.

"He had a tough game today and obviously they paid a lot of attention to him," Arena said of Pulisic. "I think he got a little frustrated."

Many Costa Rican fans were in the crowd of 26,500 at Red Bull Arena for the first World Cup qualifier in the New York area, avoided in the past by the U.S. Soccer Federation as it sought pro-American crowds.

Arena repeatedly hectored Panamanian referee John Pitti, who did not call penalty kicks when Altidore was pushed to the ground in the first half and Clint Dempsey was knocked down in the second.

Desperate for a goal, Arena finished the match with four forwards after inserting Dempsey in the 65th minute and Jordan Morris in the 84th.

Costa Rica went ahead after Howard cleared the ball to past midfield and the Ticos won possession. With Ream and Cameron split wide, Costa Rica captain Bryan Ruiz played a through pass to Urena — the U.S. claimed Ruiz handled the ball before passing. Urena took several touches to get around Ream and from a wide angle spotted Howard committing to his left to defend his near post. Urena slotted the ball to the far post, past the goalkeeper's outstretched right arm.

Masterful debut for reigning champs

JON PEREZ
A GSM Masters batter waits for a pitch from Saisei as Saipan Baseball League formally opened last Friday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Defending champions GSM Masters had a winning debut after making short work of last year's finalist Saisei, 20-2, as games in the Saipan Baseball League's masters division finally started last Friday at the Francisco M. Palacios Ballfield.

Bad weather forced organizers to call off the games scheduled during last Monday's opening and Wednesday. The scheduled match between the Pirates and Blue Jays last Tuesday in the Under-25 division also did not pushed through, while the Tanapag Falcons were leading against the Chalan Kanoa Cubs 4-0 after two complete innings when play was halted due to heavy rains. SBL coordinator Tony Rogolifoi said all rained-out matches will be played at the latter date after the regular season.

In the masters division, Walt Macaranas went 3-for-3 in leading the GSM Masters to the easy win, making a pair of singles and a double while scoring four times and having three RBIs.

Tom Diaz, who replaced Mark Flores at the bottom of the second inning, batted 2-for-3 with a run on Saisei's consecutive errors.

Rep. Vinnie Sablan (Ind-Saipan) went 2-for-3 with two singles, two runs, and two RBIs. He was out on his second time at bat and reached first base on an Otis Olkeriil error at the bottom of the fourth, but was left stranded after Leo Bobai retired the next batter.

Joe Terlaje held Saisei to five hits in four complete innings while striking out nine with two walks. The GSM Masters' defense also worked flawlessly as it forced opposing batters to flyouts and linedrives.

AFC

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"No matter what awaits us there, I think the boys are ready to go and give it our all and represent our islands," Hahn said.

Montenegro echoed Hahn's sentiments, adding that the Teen Ayuyus will work even harder and together now that the competition is just around the corner. The qualifiers will run from Sept. 16 to 24 with the CNMI challenging Indonesia, Thailand, Laos, and Timor-Leste in the Group G games at the Rajamangala Stadium in Bangkok. The top finisher in the round-robin play in Group G will advance to next year's finals along with the winners in the nine other qualifiers.

A division crown within reach of 'Darrty

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Naked Fish Ridin'Darrty used an 11-6 victory over the 6JMS Mafia 1 in keeping closest pursuer 6JMS 101 Proofers at bay in the A division of the 2017 Saipan Electronic Darts Association Bud Light League.

The Ridin'Darrty holds a 213-127 record for a double-digit lead against the 101 Proofers and is on its way to winning the division crown. The Proofers could finish second with a 198-142 slate. Third place is still a toss-up between the 6JMS Dragon Masters (187-153) and sister squad Mafia 1 (186-154).

The Proofers defeated the 9 Eleven The Mechanik's, 14-3, and are hoping for another big win when they face the 6JMS Predators. The Proofers are also praying for 'Darrty to lose big time against lowly Franken Drunken Warriors (141-199) in separate matches tonight to have a chance for the top spot.

In other A division matches, the Drunken Warriors and the cellar-dwelling Franken Gunners escaped with similar 9-8 decisions against the Dragon Masters and the Predators, respectively.

Other results

Masters
- Mafia 11, Pythons 6
- Nakayoshi 11, Calamity Fun 6

Tuesday B
- Executionerz 11, Lufeyt Boyz 4
- D'Strikerz 9, L.O.L. 6
- Warriors 9, Chamberos 6

Ladies
- Exquisites 11, Bull-It 4
- Momshies 10, Hot Mess 5

Chichirika C
- Destroyer Knights 14, Bulls Hitters 1
- Hut Shot 9, Bull-It 6
- Beach Flukers 8, Scorpions 5

Kingfisher C
- Parakeyu! 11, Ridin' Darrty C 4
- Hit'em Up 10, Sunsports 5
- Re-Darts 10, Dart Vaders 5

Fanihi B
- 80 Proofers 10, Shaka 5
- Mafia II 9, Dart Crafters 6
- Bandits 8, D'Strikers 7

Flame Tree
- Dartaholiks 9, Real Deal 6
- Serial Killaz 9 Na'Gupu 6
- Drillers 8, Jump It 7
- Ridin'Darrty B 8, S.O.L. 7

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Chow Time Lupeyt Boyz and 6JMS Xecutionerz enjoy a light moment before their match in the Kingfisher C division of the Saipan Electronic Darts Association Bud Light League 2017. Executionerz defeated Lufeyt Boys, 11-4.

Samoa to host 2019 Pacific Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 2019 Pacific Games is heading to Samoa.

"On behalf of president Vidhya Lakhan, I am pleased to announce that the PGC Executive Board has unanimously approved the awarding of the hosting rights for the 2019 Pacific Games to the PGA of Samoa," PGC executive director Andrew Minogue said in a press statement released last Friday.

Samoa defeated Guam in the battle for the hosting rights and replaced Tonga, which earlier pulled out of its hosting duties citing funding problem, forcing the PGC to solicit expression of interest from other Pacific Games Association members. Tahiti joined Samoa and Guam on the list of PGAs that wanted to bring the Games to their turf.

"The Executive Board assessed that the expression of interest lodged by Samoa was the only one that met all of the criteria, most notably the full financial commitment of the host government, including providing the range of other support services required to stage such an event. This commitment was lacking in the expression of interest lodged by the Tahiti PGA and its candidacy was not explored further via a PGC evaluation visit," Minogue said.

"The expression of interest lodged by the Guam PGA was excellent and contained the support of the governor. However, an agreement between the governor and the Guam Legislature for a budget appropriation to enable Pacific Games preparations to begin in the upcoming fiscal year could not be reached in the short timeframe available," he added.

Meanwhile, Northern Marianas Sports Association is looking forward to the Games that will be held in Apia for the third time. Samoa hosted the quadrennial event in 1983 and 2007.

"NMSA congratulates our friends from Samoa and looks forward to competing at the Games in two years time. NMSA also thanks our friends from Guam for their willingness to step forward when the countries and territories of the Pacific needed them," NMASA president Michael White said.

MANGLONA

From Page 28

ers in the female division.

Other Top 3 age group winners were Edward Dela Cruz, R.J. Aquino, and Matt Benjamin (male 20-29); Joy Belalino, Mari Weideraenners, and Mely Kergul (female 20-29); Caleb Steving, Leon Eticnne, and Meao Tang (male 30-39); Robyn Spaeth, Haina Kim, and Krista Falig (female master 30-39); Max Simian, Ernie Moses, and Raj Rai (male 40-49); Janet King, Julie Combinido, and Marilou Camosi (female 40-49); Rodel Samuzo, Mark Isip, and Ariel Lansangan (male 50-59); Helen Olpis, Marie Babauta, and Len Angelo (female 50-59); barefoot runner Chang Wang Jang, Ador Dimaano, and Romy Cayetano (male 60-up); and Felly Garcia, Lolly Velasco, and Lourdes Regino (female 60-up).

Triple J chairman and chief executive officer Bob Jones thanked those who participated and volunteered in the inaugural event.

"Everyone had a great time and expect a bigger event and better prizes for next year. We hope to see more families and groups of friends next year."

Triple J marketing manager for Guam Tina Esteves said more than 1,000 joined the fun run. "We ran out of shirts and we had 1,000 for this event. We're really glad people came out to enjoy. We hope they come back next year."

The Commonwealth Cancer Association and the Make-A-Wish Foundation Guam and CNMI are the recipients of all the proceeds from the bubble run.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	77	59	.566	—
New York	72	63	.533	4 1/2
Baltimore	69	67	.507	8
Tampa Bay	68	69	.496	9 1/2
Toronto	63	73	.463	14

Central Division

Cleveland	79	56	.585	—
Minnesota	71	64	.526	8
Kansas City	66	68	.493	12 1/2
Detroit	58	77	.430	21
Chicago	53	81	.396	25 ½

West Division

Houston	82	53	.607	—
Los Angeles	70	66	.515	12 1/2
Seattle	68	68	.500	14 1/2
Texas	67	68	.496	15
Oakland	58	77	.430	24

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	82	53	.607	—
Miami	67	68	.496	15
Atlanta	59	75	.440	22 1/2
New York	58	77	.430	24
Philadelphia	51	84	.378	31

Central Division

Chicago	75	60	.556	—
Milwaukee	71	65	.522	4 1/2
St. Louis	68	67	.504	7
Pittsburgh	64	72	.471	11 1/2
Cincinnati	58	78	.426	17 1/2

West Division

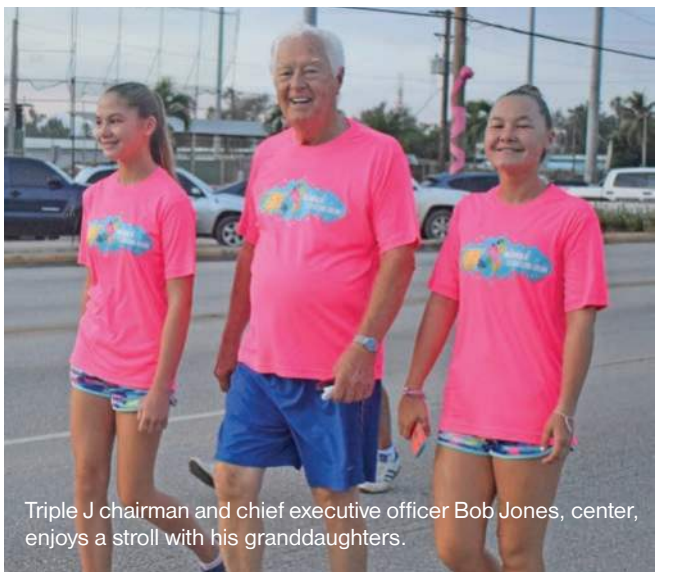
Los Angeles	92	43	.681	—
Arizona	79	58	.577	14
Colorado	72	64	.529	20 1/2
San Diego	61	75	.449	31 1/2
San Francisco	54	84	.391	39 1/2

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Inaugural Triple J 5K Foam and Fun Run

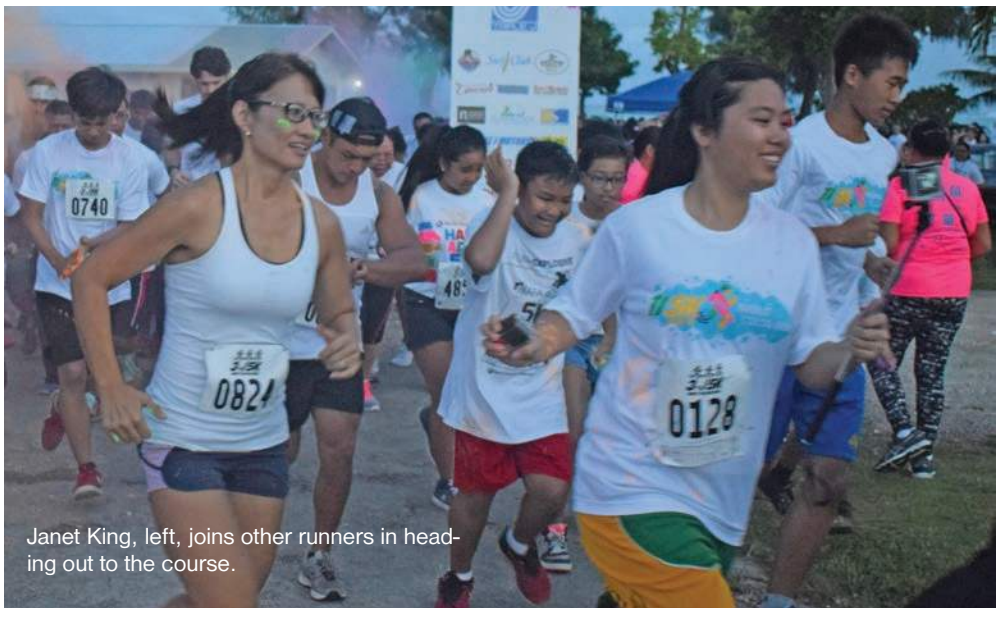
PHOTOS By JON PEREZ

Participants of last Saturday's Inaugural Triple J 5K Foam and Fun Run join the Zumba warm-up exercise before the start of the race.


Triple J chairman and chief executive officer Bob Jones, center, enjoys a stroll with his granddaughters.

Members of the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Battalion were among the volunteers for the race.

The Yoshiguonshiton group stands out in the race with its members colorful wigs.



Janet King, left, joins other runners in heading out to the course.

Participants get ready at the starting line.

Colored powder greets participants.

A large group of participants enjoys as volunteers throw colored powder at them.

Astros sweep Mets in doubleheader

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Federer looks back at best in straight-set win at US Open

PAGE 25

AFC-bound CNMI U15 Team named

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Nineteen players were named to the CNMI Boys U15 National Team that will compete in the AFC U16 Championship 2018 Qualifiers in Thailand this month.

Head coach and Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Michiteru Mita said the list of players who will don the colors of the Commonwealth to the Asian Football Confederation-sanctioned tournament includes midfielders Razeff Altamirano, Taka Borja, John Guiller Canape, Mark Esalan, Sebastien Manabat, Ian Maniago, Joshua Mendez, and John Michael Rojas; defenders Joseph Rasa, Rinto Takahashi, Terrance Montenegro, Eun Syu Hahn, Ichiro Borja, Reginald Pascual, and, Kirt Andon; forward Kaden Church; and goalies Jason Quimzon, Jamin Elliott, and Floyd Muna.

"We selected the players who are ready for the national team pride and to play for the CNMI people that are supporting us," Mita said.

"I would like to thank the players who did not make the final list for working hard since I took this team eight months ago. All the players showed dedication to the national team. They bring competitive environment to the team and boost each other's confidence, making it hard for us to select the Final 19. We would also like to thank the players' parents and clubs for their continued support," the Teen Ayuyus head coach added.

Players chosen were grateful for the opportunity to compete in an international tournament and vowed to go all out in every game to represent the CNMI well.

"This is my first time to Thailand but this isn't my first international game so I'm expecting it will hard or even harder than my past games. I can't be satisfied with what we have now because I know we have a lot to show. This tournament is a big thing, especially because we are the underdogs. We need to change that tag by stepping up and working harder. Other than that I'm excited and hoping for a good result," said team captain Manabat.

"I'd like to thank my parents, coaches, friends and family for the support. Without them I wouldn't be able to make it to the team. Thank you as well to NMIFA for giving us a chance to play in the international level," he added.

For Hahn, playing in Thailand will give them the right time and opportunity to show how the team has been working hard in the past several months.

See AFC on Page 26

Altamirano

Andon

Canape

Church

Elliott

Esalan

Hahn

I. Borja

Manabat

Maniago

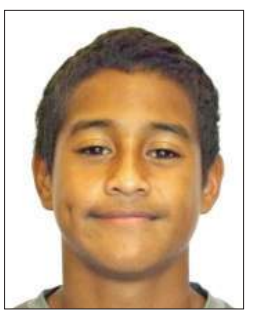
Mendez

Montenegro

Muna

Pascual

Quimzon


Rasa

Rojas

T. Borja

Takahashi

JON PEREZ

Joshua Manglona makes his way to the bubble pit before heading to the finish line of last Saturday's Inaugural Triple J 5K Foam and Fun Run at the Civic Center in Susupe.

Manglona rules Triple J Bubble Fun Run

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Tinian's Joshua Manglona ruled the Inaugural Triple J 5K Foam and Fun Run to lead the winners of the event held last Saturday.

Manglona weaved his way through a sea of humanity in completing the Bubble Fun Run course, from Civic Center in Susupe to Quartermaster Road and back, in 19 minutes and 10 seconds. He was among the group of runners who decided to make their way to the bubble pit, while others chose to head straight to the finish line. Manglona was 26 seconds ahead of Agape Christian School's Kai Ping Wang (19:36), while cancer survivor Florence Antonio logged the third best time of 20:23.

Ella Zhang, also from ACS, topped the women's division with a time of 21:43, followed by Claire Devey's 23:09 and the 23:31 of Emily Northrop. Rintaro Miyawaki led the age group winners, claiming the male U13 division crown and beating Joshua Jason and Jia Sheo Song. Kaitlyn Chavez, Maria Gregoire, and Nathanette Blas were the Top 3 finishers in the female U13 division. Only the times in the men's and women's open divisions were recorded.

In other results, Daiwei Cai ruled the male 14-19 category, followed by Arthur and William Chen. Tania Tan, Therese Millare and Jerlyn Castillo were the Top 3 plac-

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